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MIGRATION OF PEOPLE TO AND WITHIN THE
COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALBERTA,
1956 to 1967

by



PETER JOHN MARRIOTT

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
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OF MASTER OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for acceptance, a thesis entitled Migration of People to and Within the County of Grande Prairie, Alberta, 1956 to 1967 submitted by Peter John Marriott in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.



ABSTRACT

The study is concerned with migration to and within the County of Grande Prairie, Number one, Alberta, over the period 1956 to 1967.

Several hypotheses relating the characteristics of the migrants and the characteristics of the places of destination to the distance migrated and the incidence of migration are postulated and tested. Step-wise regression is used to test the relationships between the incidence of migration and various characteristics of the place of destination. The incidence of migration is shown to be related significantly to only one characteristic of the place of destination, the total population. Simple regression and correlation analysis is used to determine the degree of relationship between various characteristics of the migrants and the distance migrated. Of the migrant characteristics only age is shown to be related significantly to the distance migrated, although the mean personal education and mean income of the migrant group are found to be higher than those for the population as a whole.

Net-migration within the County varies markedly from one study subregion to another. The majority of migratory moves within the County are made towards urban areas and the population of the County is becoming increasingly concentrated at two major urban foci.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

Throughout the period 1956 to 1967, with which this study is concerned, the spatial distribution of population within the County of Grande Prairie has undergone considerable change. Although the population of the County increased by over thirty-one percent, from 17,067 in 1956 to 22,432 in 1966, the population of several of the urban areas increased by over forty percent in the same period and that of most of the rural areas declined. Migration is seen as the main component of this population redistribution. The degree of rural-urban migration is marked and is explainable largely by the changes that have occurred in agricultural practices and the desire on the part of many rural folk for the benefits of urban living. In addition to the migrations within the County, however, there is a large amount of migration to the County from both other places in Alberta and other parts of Canada. Sixty-three percent of all the people reporting that they had migrated over the study period had moved to the County from places outside it, of these seventy-four percent migrated to Grande Prairie. The pattern of population change due to net-migration shows an increasing concentration of people in the largest or urban places. Six of the study subregions showed net-migration gains over the quinquennium 1956 to 1961, but only two subregions: Beaverlodge and Grande Prairie, had net-migration gains over the period 1961 to 1966.

Migration is a spatial process of population redistribution and is a mechanism by which a short-run population equilibrium is approached; the need for migration occurs because the process of balancing births and deaths moves so slowly. As opportunities tend to be unevenly distributed over space, people migrate to those areas in which they believe they can better themselves. The reasons for migrating are extremely varied. Some

people migrate for financial gain, some are attracted by physical amenities, some move to be near relatives and some are not sure why they move. Whatever the reason or reasons a person has to migrate, many researchers have long been cognizant of the apparent effects of distance as a barrier to movement and although distance has been of diminishing importance as a barrier, as our transportation and communication technology has advanced, its effect is still felt.

The study attempts to explain the incidence of migration and the distance migrated on the basis of numerous characteristics of the individual migrant and differential characteristics of each of the study subregions. The subregional variation in population movement is also discussed. Although data on the characteristics of the subregions is available in various published and unpublished forms, data on the characteristics of the migrant group could be obtained only by interviewing migrants. Much of this study is, therefore, based on the results of a questionnaire survey conducted in June and July of 1967.

CHAPTER I

THE STUDY AREA

I. LOCATION AND DEFINITION OF THE AREA UNDER STUDY

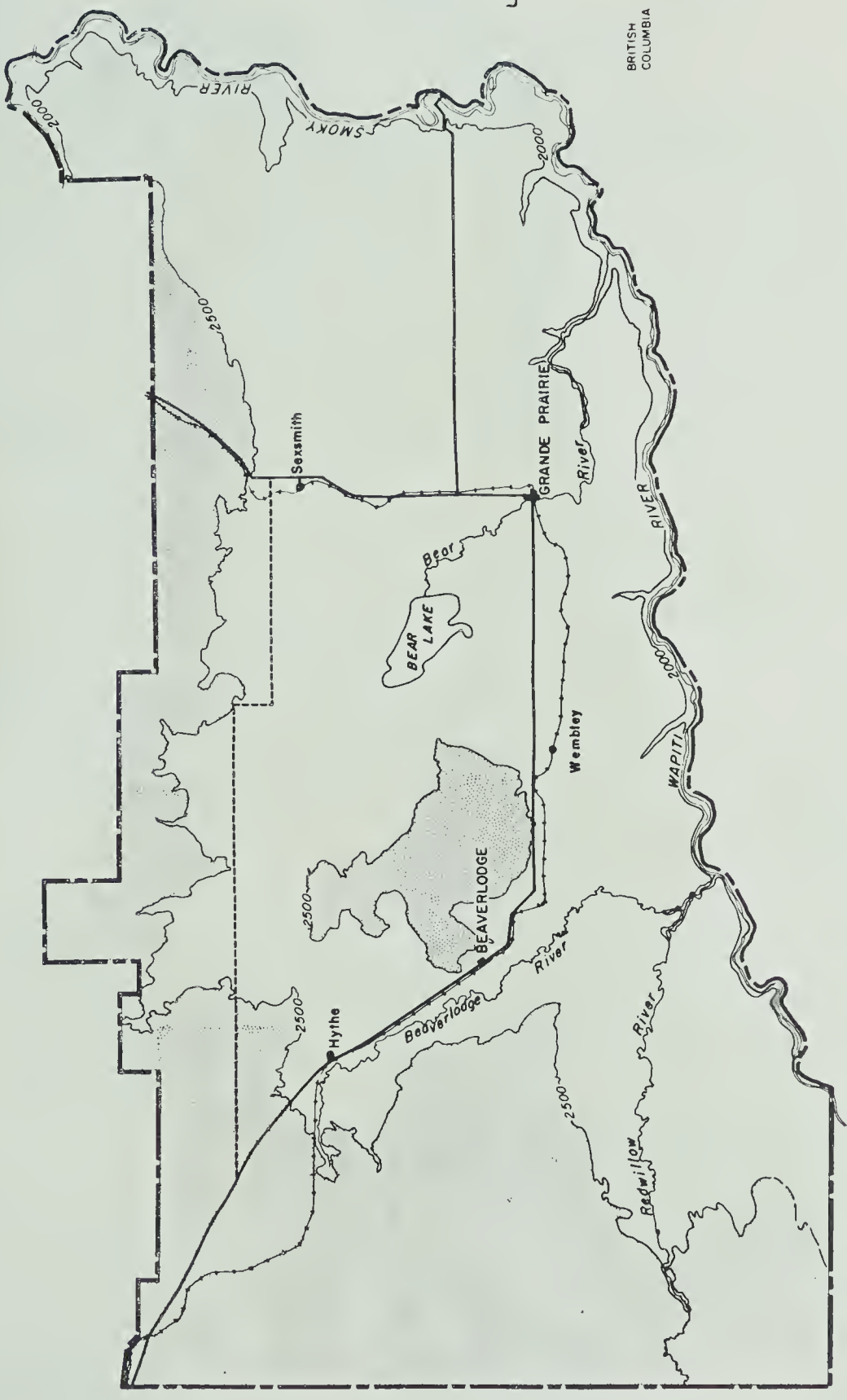
The study area, the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, is situated approximately 300 miles northwest of Edmonton, adjoining the border with British Columbia (See Map 1), and forms part of the Peace River Region. The Region is the most northerly of any recognized agricultural area in Canada and is unique in its physical isolation from other settled areas. It is separated from the interior Plateau system of B.C. on the west by the Rocky Mountain Trench and from agricultural areas to the south and east by the rough, non-arable, Swan Hills sector in Alberta (Robinson, 1963, p. 77).

The County was selected as a study area for two reasons:

(a) its boundaries are reinforced by demographic and physical boundaries; and (b) the County population of approximately 22,000 people provided a sufficient, yet not too large, population from which to select sample data.

The County is almost separated from other areas of habitation and the problem of overlapping central place influences is almost completely avoided. Map 2 shows the area of settled land and the almost uninhabited periphery to the County. The County is, furthermore, surrounded by physical barriers: low hills to the west, the Saddle Hills to the north, the Smoky River to the east and the Wapiti River and Swan Hills to the south, which effectively delineate the low non-continuous plain which constitutes the County of Grande Prairie. Thus the study area

1



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



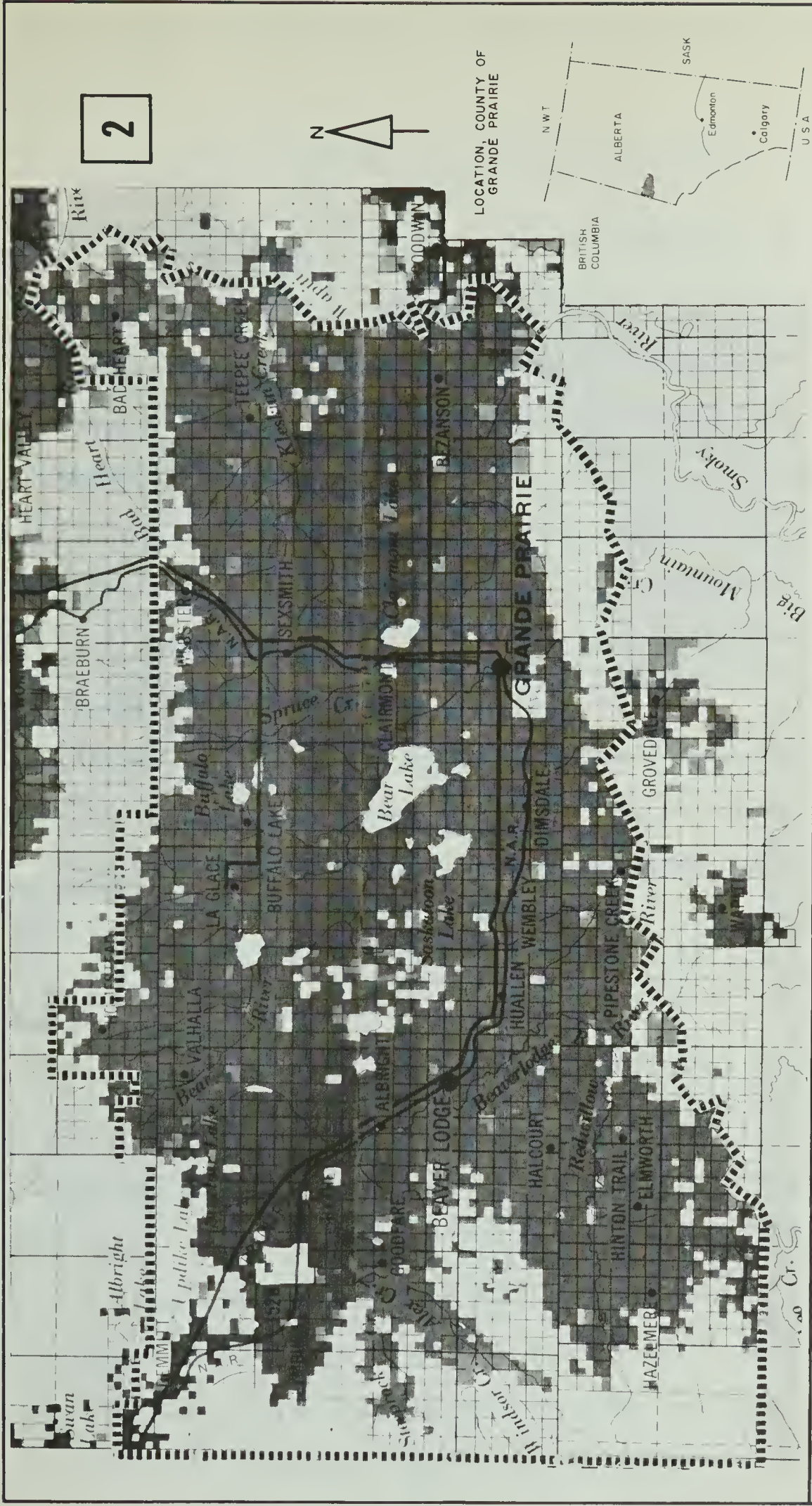
LEGEND

- HIGHWAYS
- RAILWAY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- TOWN
- VILLAGE
- CONTOURS
- LAND OVER 2500'

MAJOR PHYSICAL FEATURES
& TRANSPORTATION



COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE







2



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



LEGEND

-  PATENTED AREAS & AREAS HELD UNDER LEASE
-  PUBLIC LANDS AVAILABLE FOR SETTLEMENT
-  AREAS WITHDRAWN FROM SETTLEMENT
-  COUNTY BOUNDARY

OCCUPIED & UNOCCUPIED
FARMLAND

COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

is defined clearly in three ways: topographically, politically, and demographically.

II. THE RESOURCES OF THE PEACE RIVER REGION

The economy of the County of Grande Prairie is very dependent on the resources lying outside of its boundaries. It is impossible, therefore, to discuss adequately the economy of the County without first obtaining an understanding of the economy of the whole Peace River Region. For the purposes of providing this background information the Peace River Region is loosely defined as the area within the Peace River drainage basin although the demands of brevity will mean that much smaller areas, sometimes confined to the Alberta Central Peace District, will provide a sufficient area for discussion.

The development of the whole region has been spurred by agriculture but other resources, such as: oil, gas, forestry, and minerals, are of increasing importance in stimulating economic growth and in aiding diversification of the local economy.

(a) Agriculture

Settlement of the region, begun in 1905, was slow for many years because the majority of potential settlers were dubious that crop production was possible at such latitudes. The Peace Region soon came to the attention of the agricultural world, however, when in the mid-nineteen twenties farmers of the area began winning top awards in international agricultural competitions. The Peace Region established a reputation for being prime agricultural land and the settlement recession, revealing itself early in the decade, ceased. Just as the availability of arable

land provided the basis for effective settlement of the Peace River Area (Wonders, 1956, p. 2) so today does arable land, via the value of agricultural products produced, remain of great economic significance in the Central Peace River District (Northern Alberta Devt. Council, 1965, p. 16).

Although agriculture is accepted as the major base of the economy of the area, the future of the whole industry is uncertain. Many of the farms now occupied are marginal, some are too small for economic operation and others, hastily settled early in the century, are located on poor soils often far away from a market centre (Robinson, 1961, p. 509). There are several changes occurring in the agricultural economy of the whole region which are common to the County under study. Immediately after world war II, wheat was almost the universal crop in the area. By the mid-fifties, however, a trend away from grains and fallow land toward an increasing production of hay, seed crops, hogs and beef cattle became apparent; Table I shows the pertinent changes. Whereas the County had 128,456 acres in wheat in 1951, the acreage dropped to 41,880 acres by 1956 but rose again to 69,476 acres in 1966. The acreage in cultivated hay increased simultaneously by 50,000 acres from 1951 to 1966, and the number of beef cattle increased from 5,753 in 1951 to 31,127 in 1966.

The trends are partly the result of market forces and partly due to the adoption, by local farmers, of the recommendations of the Experimental Research Station at Beaverlodge which reviewed the land use patterns in the region and proposed changed cropping systems better adapted to the soils and climate of the area (Robinson, 1961, p. 510). The great distance from markets has made crops with a high value in relation to their bulk particularly desirable, thus speeding the trend towards the production of flaxseed and forage seeds. Table I shows also the variability of the

TABLE I
AGRICULTURAL TRENDS: COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

	1951	1956	1961	1966
1. No. Farm Owners	1,746	1,503	1,340	1,288
2. No. Occupied Farms	2,819	2,192	1,824	1,984
3. Acres Occupied Farmland	1,032,373	939,145	1,033,674	952,340
4. Av. Size of Farm (Acres)	351	429	552	485
5. Acres Wheat	128,456	41,880	78,869	69,476
6. Acres Oats	166,400	127,893	41,829	78,081
7. Acres Barley	50,005	95,314	137,667	98,565
8. Acres Flaxseed	12,002	20,997	20,689	18,852
9. Acres Rapeseed			24,124	4,389
10. Acres Cultivated Hay*	87,923	100,294	144,319	137,265
11. No. Beef Cattle	5,753	25,787	39,294	31,127
12. No. Swine	15,048	24,542	17,797	26,839

Source: Canada, D.B.S., Agriculture, Alberta, Vol. 5.3-3, Ottawa, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966.

*Includes: alfalfa, clover and all cultivated grasses.

production in the South Peace. From one census year to the next the acreage in various crops has changed, sometimes markedly, in response to market prices and weather patterns. The variability in the acreage of occupied farmland is difficult to explain but the three years immediately preceeding the 1966 census were marked with bad weather and bad growing conditions, patchy crops and serious financial problems. Some small farms were sold after this series of bad years (pers. comm, Miller, 1968).

Not only is the pattern of production changing but so too is the nature of the productive unit. With increasing mechanization, the consolidation and enlargement of farm holdings is vital if farmers are to maximize their incomes. The population shift away from agriculture and the concomitant rapid urbanization process which is seen across Canada is marked within the County of Grande Prairie. Table I shows that the number of farms in the County decreased from 2,819 in 1951 to 2,192 in 1956, with a further drop to 1,984 in 1966. The increase in the average size of farm holding mirrors this trend so that whereas the average size of farm was 351 acres in 1951, it had increased to 429 acres in 1956 and 485 acres by 1966. The resultant changes in the labour force structure are associated with the diversification of the local economy and are vital in raising the productivity of the area.

(b) Forestry

The Central Peace River District of Alberta contains over 2.5 million acres of forested land consisting largely of white spruce, pine, and poplar. Estimates of the timber reserves in the Grande Prairie Forest Division put the available volume of saw logs at over 4.5 million m.f.b.m.¹ and the volume of pulpwood at over 55 million m.f.b.m.. Management of merchantable timber reserves on a perpetual sustained yield basis would allow 89,000 m.f.b.m. of saw logs, and 1.5 million cords of pulpwood to be harvested annually. Timber cuts in the Grande Prairie Forest Division in 1961 were well below the allowable cut; only 55,000 m.f.b.m. of lumber was harvested and the production of pulpwood was negligible (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 27). While cuts in the Grande Prairie Forest Division are well below

¹Thousands of foot board measures. One foot board measure is one square foot by one inch.

the allowable cut, the Division is the largest producer of lumber in the Province of Alberta (Wonders, 1956, p. 5).

Since the nineteen-forties, forestry has emerged as a major industry in the Peace River Region. Lumbering activities expanded along the rail lines but the depletion of accessible stands of timber close to the railways, and the development of better highways and trucking facilities, led to the gradual spread of logging operations to the fringes of the area (Willis, 1966, p. 65). More recently the construction of roads for oil exploration has hastened the even harvesting of the forest resource.

"Until 1956, when the oil and gas industry superseded it, the forest industry was second only to agriculture in terms of importance to the regional economy" (Robinson, 1961, p. 510). Although this former position is not likely to be reached again, the continued expansion of the plywood factory established in 1953 at Grande Prairie, and the pulp mill proposed at a site within thirty miles and to the south of that city, should do much to retain lumber's position in the economy of the area. The pulp mill, expected to become operational by July, 1973 (Alberta, Gazette, 1969, p. 38-39) may return the forest industry to its former position in the economy of the County. Such an industry would have a multiplier effect on the local economy so that up to 3,500 people, in direct labour force, related industries, tertiary services and families, would probably be attracted to the area (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 28).

(c) Oil and Gas

Since the first gas well was established at Fort St. John in 1952 and the discovery of the Sturgeon Lake oil field in 1953, the petroleum and natural gas industries have acted as catalysts to regional growth.

Not only has the activity associated with the exploration and the production of oil products stimulated the local economy but it has also contributed a secondary effect in that the construction of roads into hitherto unopened areas has hastened the settlement of the region. The Peace Country has become a major petroleum producing area with oil and gas lines to Vancouver from major fields northeast, north, and northwest of Fort St. John and northwest of Dawson Creek; oil is also piped south to Edmonton from the Rainbow Lake field. A small oil refinery was established at Grande Prairie in 1957 but removed in 1964 as operation of such a small plant far removed from major markets proved uneconomic.

Besides the major pipelines to markets external to the region, lines from smaller gas fields supply the internal markets of the area with Grande Prairie being supplied from two fields to the north (Vanderhill, 1963, p. 34). Local gas lines serve two major purposes: they conduct gas for domestic, commercial and industrial use and also transport an energy source for thermal power generating plants which supply most of the local electrical power for all urban and rural purposes. Most recently a line has brought natural gas to consumers in Hythe and Beaverlodge (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 35).

Over sixty employees in the County work directly in the petroleum industry,² while the industry has also contributed to the growth of the region, especially Grande Prairie, by stimulating the establishment of local supply industries. There are nine oil well servicing establishments in Grande Prairie, three oil well drilling concerns, three oil field

²Six respondents, to the ten percent random survey of Grande Prairie and the fifteen percent random survey of the remainder of the County, to which seventy-two percent of the people polled-replied, indicated employment in the petroleum industry.

hauling companies, and two oil and gas servicing businesses (Grande Prairie Industrial Devt. Comm., 1968, p. 4). The indirect effect on the economy is marked but is difficult to estimate accurately.

(d) Other Resources

Iron-ore deposits were discovered in the Clear Hills, northwest of Fairview, in 1956. Proven deposits of the ore, which contains 30-35 percent iron, are estimated at over 225 million tons (Hefferman, 1965, p. 61). A pilot scheme is being conducted to find ways in which to develop an economical extraction and reduction method. There is a world-wide market for pure iron in a powdered form and it is "confidently expected that ... a full scale processing plant will be designed within three to five years" (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 32).

Recent surveys south of the Wapiti River reveal that there are large reserves (up to 9 billion tons) of good quality coking-coal in the southerly portion of the Smoky River coal area (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 34). A new coking-coal operation at Grand Cache, 90 miles south of Grande Prairie, is expected to export 3 million tons of coal to Japan annually over the next fifteen years (Grande Prairie Ind. Devt. Comm., 1968, p. 4). Grande Prairie is the nearest market centre of any size and the City can expect to derive many direct and indirect benefits.

Three other resources deserve note: (a) The region contains considerable hydro-electric potential with several possible dam sites on the Smoky and Athabasca rivers. Although hydro-electric power schemes provide little direct stimulus to regional growth, the availability of a cheap power source may be important if the area is to develop industrially. (b) Easily accessible silica deposits near the Town of Peace River are

reported to contain one million tons of high-grade silica which could well be utilized in the container manufacturing industry (N.A.D.C., 1965, p. 32).

(c) Large deposits of elemental sulphur have been discovered in the North Peace and Rainbow Lake areas and much exploratory work is presently underway (Alta. Dept. Industry and Tourism, 1968, p. 28).

III. RECENT TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT, SETTLEMENT, AND POPULATION CHANGE

Transportation has always been extremely important in settlement processes, and nowhere more so than in the Peace River Region. From 1948 onwards, the development of modern highways, providing access to both Vancouver and Edmonton, has reduced the isolation which for decades had been the major factor inhibiting the growth of the Peace River Region. The Alaska Highway, from Dawson Creek to Fairbanks in Alaska, was completed in 1942 and brought a boom period to the Town of Dawson Creek, which had a 1951 population seven times that of its 1941 population. Many of the communities along the route leading to Dawson Creek also benefitted from the increased traffic (See Table II). Until 1952 all this traffic was funnelled through Edmonton and the Lesser Slave Lake approach route (Vanderhill, 1963, p. 34) but the route proved inadequate when the construction of the John Hart Highway to Vancouver from Dawson Creek in 1952 added greatly to the traffic flow (Willis, 1966, p. 71). Highway 43 from Edmonton through the Swan Hills to Valleyview, was completed in 1956 and connected with Highway 34 to Grande Prairie.

Highway 43, which is completely paved, has proved to be the most important routeway into and out of the area, and has reduced considerably

TABLE 11
GROWTH OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES ALONG THE ALASKA HIGHWAY ROUTE
1941 to 1961

TOWN OR VILLAGE	1941	1951	1961
Dawson Creek	518	3,589	10,946
Grande Prairie	1,724	2,664	8,352
Wembley	188	251	303
Beaverlodge	331	514	897
Hythe	247	342	449

Source: Canada, D.B.S., Population, Historical, Vol. 1.1-10
Ottawa, 1961.

both the travel time and the transport cost to Edmonton and has increased the linkages with the rest of the Alberta economy. Roads have been continually upgraded but not until 1950 was the highway from Grande Prairie to Valleyview paved, and as late as 1956 the only paved highway west of Grande Prairie was the section leading to Beaverlodge (Willis, 1966, p. 74). Associated with the construction and improvement of the main highways, has been the extension and upgrading of the local road system to improve access to farm districts. Numerous roads which had only dirt surfaces in the early fifties are now gravelled and many farmers have connections with the main highways.

The continued road improvement has been a major factor in the expansion of settlement to the north of the region, but has had a reverse effect in the County of Grande Prairie. Some marginal areas have been removed from production and agricultural lands close to highways are being

more intensively worked. However, transportation not only facilitates the settlement of an area, but it also allows people to leave more easily when economic conditions in the area are comparatively worse than those in areas outside.

There is much land, possibly 6 million acres (Wonders, 1956, p. 4), still remaining to be settled in the Peace Region but the majority lies on grey wooded soils far from the County under study. Whereas the North Peace still continues to attract homesteaders the process of land settlement has all but ceased in the area around Grande Prairie. During the period 1951 to 1967 only twenty new homesteads (less than one percent of the County area) were patented in the County (Alta., Dept. Lands and Forests, 1951, '57, '61, '67). Although few new farm settlers can be expected in the County the effect of further settlement, and increased production and income, in areas outside the County will have an economic impact on market centres such as Grande Prairie.

Recent population and economic expansion have been stimulated by oil, gas, and forestry development (Robinson, 1961, p. 509) and the rate of population increase in the post-war period has been approximately the same as that of Alberta and B.C. as a whole. Every community in the region showed growth in the early fifties, but by the late fifties some were showing net losses of population. The population of the County rose by roughly 58 percent in the fifteen years from 1951 when the population was 14,300, to over 22,400 in 1966 (See Table III). Table III shows that apart from Hythe which registered a slight decline in population after 1956, the towns and villages of the County have been growing rapidly while there has been a small but significant decline in the rural population.

TABLE III

POPULATION CHANGES: COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

	1951*	1956	1961	1966	Percent Change '56/'66
Farm Population	10,429	7,911	7,236	7,166	- 9.1
Wembley	251	272	303	299	+10.0
Sexsmith	331	345	531	491	+42.3
Hythe	342	481	449	445	- 7.5
Beaverlodge	514	768	897	1,083	+41.0
Grande Prairie	2,664	6,302	8,352	11,417	+81.0
Total Population:					
Incorporated Settlements	4,102	8,168	10,532	13,735	+68.1
Total Population in the County	14,300	17,067	19,335	22,432	+31.3
Pop. Inc. Settlements as % of Total County Pop.	28.7	47.8	54.5	61.3	-

Sources: Canada, D.B.S., Agriculture, Alberta, Vol. 5.3-3, Ottawa, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966; Canada, D.B.S., Population, Counties and Census Subdivisions, Vol. 1.1-5, Ottawa, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966.

*Approximate; includes census subdivisions 739-742, 769-772, and 800-801.

The farm population of the County dropped from 7,911 people in 1956 to 7,166 people in 1966, a decline attributable to changes in the sizes of farm holdings mentioned earlier, and a desire, especially on the part of the younger generation, for the amenities of urban living. There were also several years of bad weather conditions; either too wet or too dry. Many of the farmers who sold their land were near retirement age and although some of the farms have been bought by local people, a larger number have been bought by people moving into the County from other areas where they

generally sold their land for a higher price than the cost of land of comparable productivity in the County (pers. comm., Miller, 1968).

While the rural population seems to have stabilized somewhat, the population of the urban communities has, on the whole, increased rapidly. Table III shows that two of the smaller centres are growing in population, but Hythe's population declined over the period 1956 to 1966. Furthermore, only Beaverlodge and Grande Prairie have grown consistently, the latter by 81 percent over the ten year period, an increase from 6,302 in 1956 to 11,417 in 1966. This increase accounted for over 95 percent of the net population gain of the County as a whole. It appears as though the population of the County is moving towards a new equilibrium in which people will concentrate at only the largest centres.

Throughout the period under study the population growth in the County is attributable not only to natural increase but also to net migration into the area. Natural increase, even assuming all persons born in the County had stayed in it, accounts for only about 79 percent of the population gain of the County as a whole. Besides net migration into the County, there is considerable migration within the County so that some areas are increasing in population while others are declining. The larger urban communities have made net gains through migratory movement but the smaller settlements and rural areas show net losses. The following study attempts to elucidate the mechanism of population change through migration to and within the County of Grande Prairie.

CHAPTER II

THE LITERATURE, THE VARIABLES USED IN THE STUDY, AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

I. THE LITERATURE

"Migration, which is merely the sum of person movements, has long been observed to display a certain regularity in its characteristics" (Porter, 1956, p. 317). The major spatial variables in migration are:

1. The distance from the source, i , to the destination, j .
2. The opportunities at i compared with those at j .
3. Population size, structure and distribution at i and j .
4. The information about j existing at i .

Although migration is frequently a major symptom of basic social change and is a necessary element of normal population adjustment, two of the prime forces motivating people to migrate are the expected economic benefits and the availability of amenities at the point of destination. Some areas have better climatic or social amenities, eg. California, other areas provide expanding opportunities for employment, while source areas (of people) may have poor physical amenities or they may be areas of stationary or declining economic opportunities. Migration, then, occurs towards areas which are considered to be desirable for either economic or non-economic reasons. People move towards those areas in which they believe they can attain certain desired goals with a minimum of effort. At the same time what is desirable to one person may not be desirable to another, also what is thought desirable before the move may not remain or turn out to be desirable after the move has been completed because the realized

benefits may not be as great as those anticipated. Considerable backflow may, therefore, occur so that "rates of in-migration and out-migration in any community tend not to be independent of each other" (Bogue, 1959, p. 502).

It seems that there is a vast array of reasons causing persons to migrate, and Bogue (1959, p. 499) says "Reasons for migration are not necessarily known to the migrant, and his rationalization of his move may not be valid or logical...." A person's whole economic, social and personal position in the place of origin must be considered.

The models put forward to elucidate migration patterns fall into two main groups: (a) Deductive models, and (b) Inductive models. A further subdivision may be made into the earlier deterministic type of model, in which the phenomenon was thought to be wholly or partly explained by one or more variables, and the later probabilistic type of model into which the uncertainty principle, by way of random or probable patterns of behavior, is incorporated. In the latter type of model the degree of explanation of the dependent variable in the independent variable is determined on the basis of probability theory and only partial explanation, within known limits, is expected.

Many of the earlier models considered man as being a completely rational being in whom economic motivation was thought to be of prime importance. Such models stated that people migrate in order to raise their level of income and that migrations are a means of achieving a state of spatial income equilibrium. Although many of these earlier considerations are still held to be valid, by themselves they are rather naive for several reasons: (a) the emotive or programmed content of human behavior is ignored or underestimated, (b) the concept of man as an individual moti-

vated purely by economics relies upon that individual having complete knowledge of his present and future alternative environments, and (c) the individual's perception of his present and future alternative environments is understated by grouping people like commodities, whereas "in migration, the agent being transported is itself active and generates its own flow" (Wolpert, 1965, p. 161). Migration is not, therefore, explainable to any great degree by economically rational reasons but is the observable effect of a great complex of behavioral and spatial causes.

Numerous studies of migration have been made, each placing emphasis on a different main variable. No attempt will be made here to summarize all the literature as it is covered adequately by Hagerstrand (1957), Olsson (1965), and Morrill (1965). Articles since the latter date have shown an emphasis on behavioral characteristics of migration. Gerger (1966) was concerned with illustrating certain points of the migrant's situation before and after displacement and Wolpert (1965) studied the behavioral aspects of the decision to migrate. Berry and Schwind (1969) concern themselves with the study of migration flows as effected by the migrant's information about the place of destination.

11. MIGRATION VARIABLES USED IN THE STUDY

Migration can be defined as a residential movement of a person or group, P , from one point, i , to another point, j . Therefore, as Olsson (1965) points out "the basic elements in migration can be restricted to the migrant himself and the two points." The migration between two points becomes a function of the point of origin, the point of destination and the migrant or group of migrants. Thus, if the migration between i and j is denoted by M , then $M = f(i, j, P)$.

Most of the studies of migration have been confined to the study of only part of this function so that the places of origin or destination, or both, have often been studied with the migrant himself and his behavior being ignored; studies based on the gravity model fall into this category. On the other hand, many demographers and sociologists have ignored or underemphasized the places. There are, however, a few studies which have considered the whole function with all the variables being taken into account. Studies by Morrill (1965), Lovgren (1956), and Olsson (1965) fall into this category and although such studies present the greatest problems because they try to cover so many facets of migration, they were used as the main guide in the selection of variables to be used in the present study.

There are numerous variables or factors which have a bearing on migratory behavior and these can be divided into two groups: micro-variables which are peculiar to the migrant household, and macro-variables which affect the community at large, for example the level of economic activity. The questionnaire (discussed in Chapter III) sought data on the former factors while the published and unpublished data provided information on the latter factors.

Selected Variables

- (a) Distance over which migration occurs.
- (b) Characteristics of the places of origin and destination.
- (c) Individual characteristics of the migrant or migrant household.

(a) Distance. There are numerous opinions on how migration distance should be measured. Some studies support the argument that physical distance should be replaced by a new but vague concept of

"functional", "economic" or "perceptual" distance and Olsson (1965) utilized a system of areas of "standardized intervening population" so that each area had approximately the same 'absorptive effect' on migrants and, therefore, each area could be counted as one functional distance unit; migration distance was measured by the number of units crossed. Stouffer (1960) formulated an hypothesis of intervening opportunities which sought to replace absolute distance, between the point of origin and destination of a migrant, with a measure of the number of alternative intervening social or employment opportunities. Strodbeck (1960), however, tested the intervening opportunity model and the gravity model, in which distance is measured absolutely, and found rank correlation coefficients of 0.91 and 0.87 respectively for the correlation of the expected and observable number of migrations from Kentucky, suggesting that neither measure is superior to the other. Furthermore, Anderson (1965) compared Stouffer's model with Zipf's (1946) model and found that distance defined in terms of intervening opportunity is not superior to distance in terms of highway mileage. The author, therefore, took highway mileage as the measure of distance for moves to the County from other places.

The distance over which a move occurred within the County is measured by the straight line distance between the point of origin and destination. Although the actual distance travelled will vary according to the road pattern, the vast majority of roads are at right angles to each other so that the degree of correlation between straight-line and road distance is very high. Sitwell (1968) found that the road distance had a correlation of 0.985 with the straight-line distance. Finally, the effect of earth curvature is negligible as the maximum distance over which migrants travelled in the County was only 45 miles and 93 percent of the distances travelled were less than 30 miles.

Distance is used as an independent variable when discussing the rate of flow of migrants and as a dependent variable when relating the distance travelled to the attributes of the migrant.

(b) Characteristics of places of origin and destination. Data on these characteristics came from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics 'print-outs' of data by enumeration areas and includes:

- i. Population change - 1956 to 1961, and 1961 to 1966.
- ii. Percent farm and non-farm population for 1961 and 1966.
- iii. 1961 average wage earnings.
- iv. Education level - the number of people in 1961 with over three years of high school education.
- v. The number of people in the 25 to 64 year age group for 1961 and 1966.
- vi. Total population 1956, 1961, 1966.
- vii. Mean age for 1961, 1966.

(c) Individual characteristics of the migrant or migrant household. Information about the migrant household was obtained by questionnaire which included questions on:

- i. The marital status of the migrant (head of migrant household).
- ii. The size of the migrant family.
- iii. The age of the migrant.
- iv. The birth place of the migrant, if in the County, otherwise the year of the move to, and the location of the first home in, the County.
- v. The number of moves since 1956 and the years of moving.
- vi. Whether or not the migrant had arranged employment or accommodation prior to the move.

- vii. The main reason or reasons for moving.
- viii. The manner in which the migrant group received information about the place of destination.
- ix. The occupation of the migrant.
- x. The type of industry that the migrant was employed by.
- xi. The personal income of the migrant and spouse.
- xii. The education of the migrant and spouse.
- xiii. Whether or not the migrant had ever been a farmer and his reasons for leaving the farm.
- xiv. Future intentions of the migrant and family.

Not all of these variables were used in the analysis but they did provide a depth of knowledge about the attitudes and behavior of the migrant group. All of the variables were selected because they were thought to be of significance in migratory behavior; the reasons for selecting the major variables are implied in the statement of objectives below.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are to describe and analyze the population migration to and within the County of Grande Prairie and to test a number of hypotheses associated with migration. The hypotheses are stated in the terms of the selected variables and suggest some of the reasons for the migratory movements both to, and within, the County.

Several hypotheses are tested:

- I. A. The number of migrants moving between two points is:
 - i. negatively related to the distance separating the point of origin and destination;

- ii. positively related to the population in both the area of origin and the area of destination.

Both of these hypotheses are drawn directly from Reilly (1929) who used Newton's gravity equation and first formulated the 'gravitational model' for describing the interaction between two population centres.

1. B. The number of migrants moving between two points is positively related to:

- i. the level of income in the area of destination;
- ii. the general level of education in the area of destination;
- iii. the size of the employed labour force in the area of destination (measured by the population in the 25-64 year old group);
- iv. the rate of population increase, during the previous period, in the place of destination.

Hypotheses Bi, Bii, and Biii are similar in that they all reflect the principle of the availability of opportunities at the place of destination and to that extent are attributable to Stouffer (1940, p. 846) who said "The number of persons going a given distance is directly proportional to the number of opportunities at that distance" Olsson (1965, pp. 10-12) tested hypotheses Bi (above) and Bogue et al (1957, pp. 71-72) found that the rate of in-migration to, and net migration gain of, a metropolitan sub-region varied directly with the education level at the place of destination (Bii above).

The writer also thought that the percentage population change in the previous period could be a significant factor affecting the rate of population migration. The variable was thought to be an additional measure of the opportunity at the place of destination.

2. A. The length of a migratory movement is:

- i. positively related to the education level of the migrant;
- ii. positively related to the income of the migrant.

These hypotheses are similar. Hagerstrand (1967, p. 116) verified that migration distances vary with the education level of the migrant so that people with the highest education usually make the longest moves. Olsson (1965, p. 15) replaced the migrant's education with the migrant's income. Furthermore, Wolpert (1965, p. 165) mentions formal education as one of the factors which shapes an individual's "action space" and is cognizant of the "congruity and interdependence of the effects of ... family income, education and occupation" Education increases a person's possible choices among alternative courses of action and also makes a person more aware of those alternatives both at the initial location and any alternative future locations. The migrant household's income is similarly important for it is the income which facilitates the actual move.

2. B. The length of a migratory movement is negatively related to the age of the migrant.

Olsson (1965, p. 12) who tests this hypothesis says "it is well known that migration intensity is a function of age." Migration involves search or exploratory behavior and these attributes are more prevalent in young rather than old adults. Young adults also have less community ties and are frequently working up the 'social ladder' so that movement is easier and more necessary.

2. C. The length of a migratory movement is negatively related to the size of the migrant household.

The author reasoned that the larger any particular household the more difficult it would be for that household to migrate.

3. A. The probability of a household migrating is related to the occupation of the head of the migrant household so that migration probability is job-selective.

Kariel (1963) tested several factors associated areally with population growth due to net migration. One of these factors was the proportion of the total labour force made up by professional, technical and kindred workers. This hypothesis is obviously related to 2i and 2ii (above) insofar as the occupation of any employed person is directly related to that person's education or training, and a person's income is related to his/her education. The professional and technical group are thought to be more mobile because these people have greater job opportunities and, therefore, have more alternative courses of action available to them. Furthermore, through the contacts and publications within their own organizations these people are usually aware of the opportunities at different locations.

3. B. The probability of a household migrating is related positively to the occurrence of a friend or relative of the migrant, in the area of destination.

Gerger (1966, p. 93) mentions the importance of a migrant having contacts in the place of destination. A migrant will tend to select that alternative which minimizes uncertainty and to that extent the personal experience of friends or relatives, especially those living at any potential future location, is important in providing information to a potential and then actual migrant. Furthermore, the feedback of information is

important and uncertainty is reduced if a migrant follows the course of action of a prior migrant with whom he is familiar (Wolpert, 1965, p. 166).

The results of the tests of each of these hypotheses are included in Chapter IV.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The study was confined to the County of Grande Prairie because, as mentioned in Chapter I, the County is not only defined well but its physical size and population were thought to be manageable for a study of this nature. Data on the movement and migration of people, especially within such a small area, is not available from any published or unpublished sources. Hence, the only way to obtain information on the migration of people, and the reasons for that migration, was to interview the residents of the area. A random sample of County residents, therefore, forms the basis of the largest part of this study.

I. THE SAMPLE

The author thought initially that a sample of 200 persons would provide sufficient accuracy in sampling but approximately 800 were finally selected in order to reduce the random sampling error¹ and also to ensure that sufficient movers would be included in the sample to make the study worthwhile.

The interviewees were selected at random from lists of householders. The names of all householders in the rural areas, villages and towns of the County are contained in the relevant Post Office Householder

¹The random sampling error, or standard error, is proportional to the square root of the number of observations, hence the sample size must be quadrupled if accuracy is to be doubled. See Gregory (1964, pp. 102-112).

Directory², with householders being listed under the Post Office which serves them. However, at the time of the survey the Directory was one year old, hence each postmaster was asked to update the list of his customers by adding or deleting names where necessary. No directory (post office or commercial) was available for Grande Prairie; however, the author was fortunate in that the postmen of that city had just compiled a list of all postal addresses by postal walks in order to support a claim for increased wages. As the postal-walk-lists were made up of postal addresses and not merely street numbers all receivers of mail were listed separately so that each dwelling unit (e.g. apartment) was listed separately. Thus, the postal-walk-lists, together with lists of private box holders and householders on the two rural routes served from Grande Prairie, formed the basis of the sample for the City and the immediate rural areas. All settlements with post offices are shown on Map 3.

From the lists of householders a random sample stratified by area and with a constant sampling fraction of fifteen percent was selected for all the towns, villages and rural areas. A ten percent random sample was taken of the population of Grande Prairie as the writer forecast correctly that a greater response could be expected from the City population.

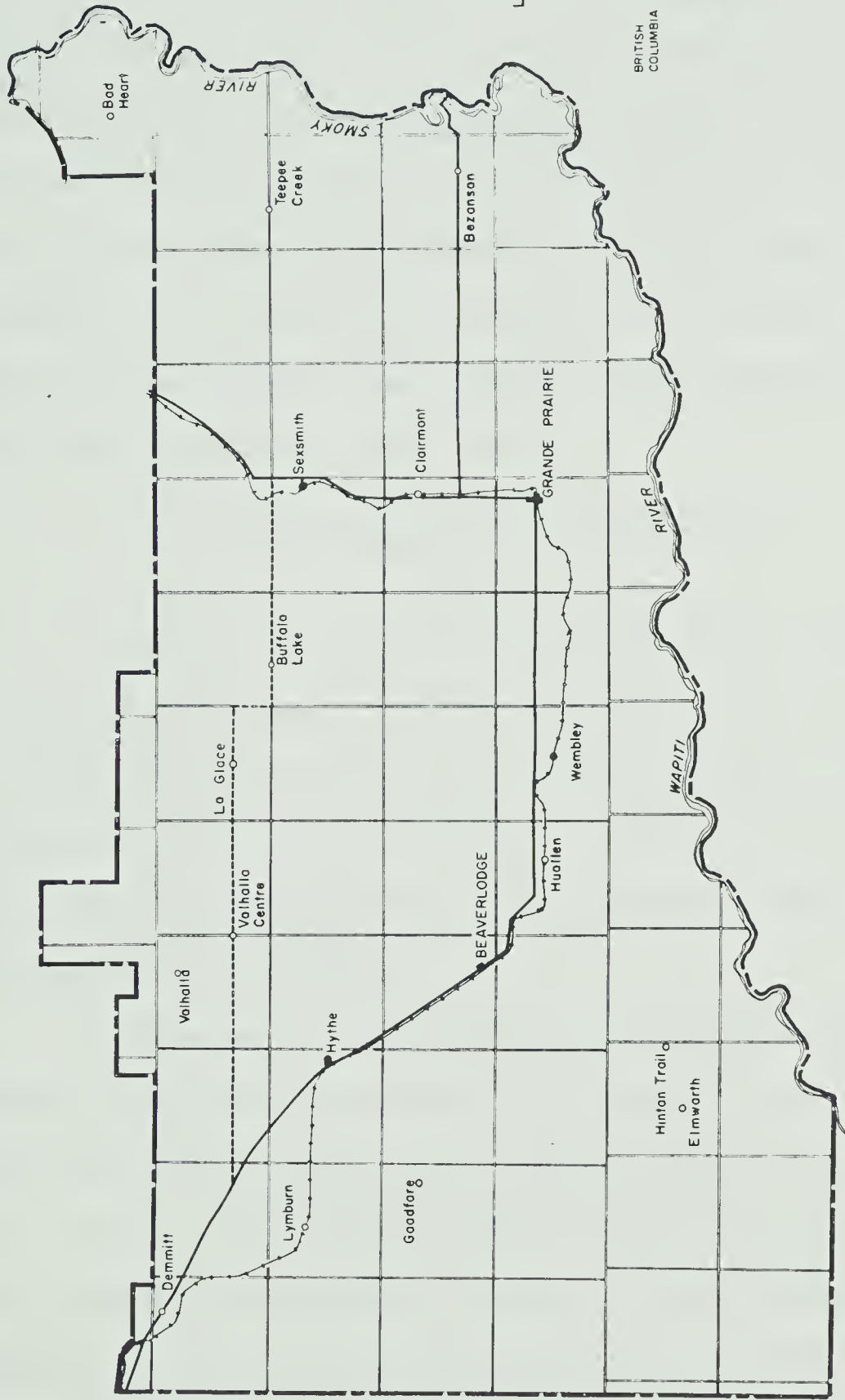
The study area was stratified so that a more even coverage would be obtained than might have been possible with a simple random sample. Stratified sampling can be used to improve the efficiency of the sampling design so that the standard error of the mean of the stratified random sample is frequently less than that of the simple random sample (Blalock,

²The Householder Directory was selected over the Telephone Directory because many people, especially in the more isolated rural areas, do not have a telephone. The Telephone Directory does not, therefore, list 100 percent of the population.

3



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



LEGEND

- HIGHWAYS
- TOWN
- RAILWAY
- VILLAGE
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- HAMLETS

SETTLEMENTS
WITH POST OFFICES



COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

SOURCE: Op't of Mines & Technical Surveys, 1963

P. J. M. August, 1968

1960, p. 399). Although such a procedure may not be worthwhile unless the standard error is appreciably smaller, (Karmel, 1963, p. 139) and in a large sample chance factors alone would assure approximately the correct proportions from each stratum, there is little to lose by stratified sampling (Blalock, 1960, p. 399). It was, therefore, thought best to use those techniques likely to give more dependable results. The strata were determined on the basis of the areas served by each post office so that there were ten strata, each of the large post offices forming one stratum with the smaller post offices being aggregated so that there were always at least 200 householders in each stratum. Thus 756 householders in the County were selected for interviewing.

II. THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND INTERVIEWING

Although the questionnaire (see Appendix I) could perhaps be revised even more than it has been already, it did provide a simple format for the questions and did have the benefit of being reasonably precise and yet at the same time inoffensive. Furthermore, the information required was elicited and the high percentage of replies is indicative of the questionnaire's success.

The selected householders were contacted in three ways: by personal interviews, by telephone, and by mail. As the post-walk-lists for Grande Prairie showed only postal addresses and not names, all those households selected within the City were contacted personally. The Town of Beaverlodge and the villages of Sexsmith, Hythe, and Wembley were also canvassed personally where possible and also by telephone. The remainder of the selected households were interviewed by telephone where possible and otherwise by mailed questionnaire. Where no contact was made, with a

selected household, after three phone calls or personal visits, a questionnaire with covering letter and stamped-addressed envelope was left or mailed. Questionnaires were only mailed when contact had not been made in either of the other ways. Thus, 220 questionnaires were mailed or left at interviewee's residences.

Where a respondent replied that no member of his/her household had changed residence from one urban or rural area to another urban or rural area since June 1956, no questionnaire was completed; the negative reply being merely recorded. When one or more members of the household had migrated, all questions were asked and the replies recorded. A questionnaire was completed for each household head or person who was or had been independent and who had migrated at any stage from June 1956 to June 1967.

The field survey was conducted in June and July of 1967. For economic reasons those who had already left the County could not be interviewed, which is to be regretted since a comparison between those migrants who left the County and those who remained in it may have revealed some interesting results; also, the number of out-migrants from the County can only be estimated. Those interviewed fully were, therefore, migrants within, and to, the County who had migrated since June 1956 and who were still resident in the County in June and July of 1967.

III. THE RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The high response (96 percent of householders selected for sampling) for Grande Prairie is indicative of the reliability of personal (face-to-face) interviewing. The returns from selected people in Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, Hythe and Wembley which were interviewed personally and by telephone were

lower than those for the City, with between 66 and 83 percent of those sampled replying. The response from the remainder of the County - in which the people were interviewed by telephone or mailed questionnaire - ranged from 51 to 74 percent; 51 percent being the lowest response and from the most isolated area of the County. Only 26 percent of the mailed questionnaires were returned but it seems that a response of this magnitude is all that can be expected from mailed questionnaires.

The overall response was good with a total of 544 or 72.2 percent reliable replies. The rate of reply varied spatially, however, so that it was highest in the urban areas and lowest in the most isolated portions of the County. As there was a net population loss from 1956 to 1966 in all of the more isolated parts of the County, it is thought that few new residents would be present, so that although the response is biased against the isolated areas, the lack of, or slow rate of, in-migration, and hence the low probability of a move occurring, is such that the validity of the study should not be unduly affected. Moreover, a chi-square test comparing the spatial distribution of households with the spatial distribution of replies to the questionnaire revealed no significant difference between the expected probability of reply and the observed probability of reply³. The pattern of response related directly to the actual pattern of distribution of households so that the sample can be considered accurate insofar as it is truly random.

³A chi-square value of 10.10 was obtained with 36 degrees of freedom. See Appendix II for a fuller explanation.

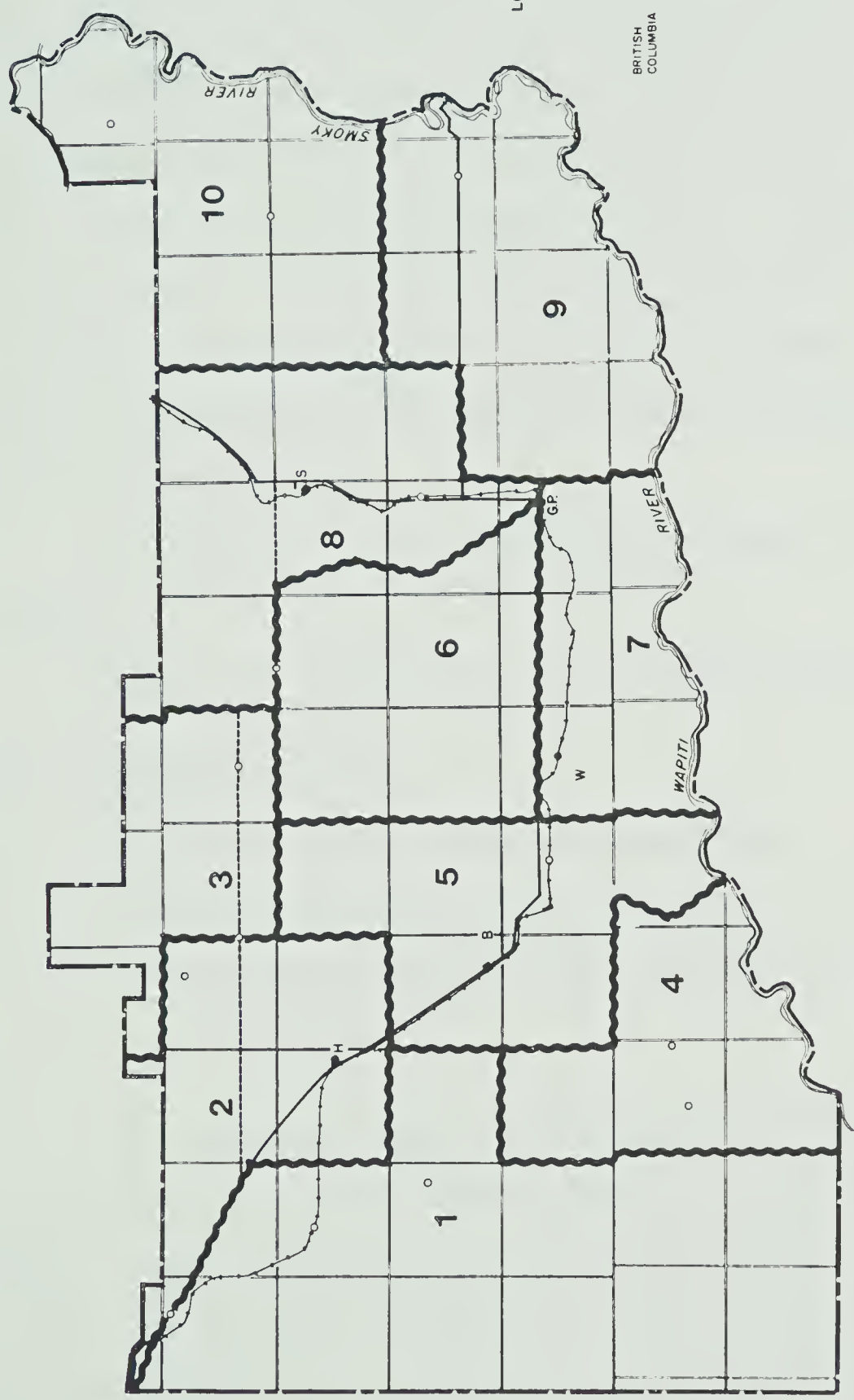
IV. THE METHOD OF ANALYSIS

All the data was coded and transferred from the questionnaires to punched cards which were sorted so that frequency tables could be obtained. The most important migration variables, namely: age, income and education of the prime mover, family size, distance moved and the number of movers, which could be meaningfully quantified, were selected and subjected to further analysis. Regression and simple correlation analysis was applied to the data, using "canned" programmes in the Fortran IV language on the University of Alberta's I.B.M. 360/68 computer. In addition to this "total analysis" of the individual sets of data, analysis of data aggregates was carried out by the use of the APL language for which purpose the data was aggregated into 15 subregions as shown on Map 4; the subregions are based on enumeration area boundaries (Canada, D.B.S., 1966). Although there are thirty-seven enumeration areas in the County, these were grouped into the fifteen subregions shown. Stepwise regression was used to determine significant relationships between and among the variables⁴. The probability of a move from one subregion to another was also determined, the result being shown in a matrix which was to be used as the basis of a predictive model of probable population distribution.

The distance over which migrations occurred within the County was measured by programming the computer to "read-off" point locations according to an algebraic grid. Thus, the computer "measured" the algebraic straight-line distance, d_{ij} , between two co-ordinates, i at the point of origin and j at the point of destination, of any migratory movement.

⁴See Appendix III for an explanation of Stepwise Regression.

4



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



L E G E N D

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| — HIGHWAYS | ■ TOWN | — SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARIES | B BEAVERLODGE SUBREGION |
| — RAILWAY | • VILLAGE | 2 SUBREGIONAL NUMBERS | W WEMBLEY SUBREGION |
| --- COUNTY BOUNDARY | ○ HAMLETS | H HYTHE SUBREGION | S SEXSMITH SUBREGION |
| | | GP GRANDE PRAIRIE SUBREGION | |

SOURCE D.B.S. Census, 1966 & Dept. of Mines & Technical Surveys, 1963 P.J.M. August, 1969

STUDY SUBREGIONS



COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

All points of origin and destination were known to within one mile, the points being specified by the appropriate section in the grid-survey and coded on the basis of a co-ordinate system.

Net-migration rates were calculated (from D.B.S. data) for the fifteen study subregions so that the differential pattern of population mobility would be revealed and so that it would be possible to check on the population redistribution calculated from the results of the questionnaire. The latter aim proved impossible to meet. Although the net-migration figures calculated from the D.B.S. data are probably fairly accurate, the out-migration from the County is necessarily unknown. Thus there is no way of ascertaining the net migration rates calculated on the basis of the questionnaire replies.

Net migration (D.B.S. data) was calculated by using the following equation:

$$M = P_1 - P_0 - \sum_0^I (B-D) \dots \dots \dots (1) \text{ (Bogue, 1955, p. 15),}$$

where M = net migration,

P_1 = population at the terminal census year,

P_0 = population at the initial census year,

$B-D$ = natural increase (births minus deaths) over
the period.

Unfortunately, however, neither births nor deaths were available by enumeration area so that it was necessary to calculate both sets of figures. Knowing the population by sex and age groups by enumeration areas for 1956, 1961 and 1966, the number of births and deaths for each age group was calculated from the province-wide birth and death rates (Alberta, Dept. Public Health and Vital Stats., 1966, p. 49 and pp. 164-165) which were then

adjusted for the local variation as expressed by the respective vital statistics of the Grande Prairie Health Unit (Pers. comm. Director, Grande Prairie Health Unit)⁵.

⁵See Appendix IV for a more detailed description of the net migration calculation.

CHAPTER IV

THE HYPOTHESES TESTED

The chapter is divided into four sections, the first three sections covering the different sets of hypotheses stated in Chapter II, and the fourth dealing with other characteristics of the migrants. The first section deals with migration intensity, the second with the distance over which migration occurs and the third with the probability of a household migrating. Migrations to the County from other places in Alberta and migrations within the County are compared where possible. The short-distance and long-distance movements sometimes provide an interesting contrast.

1. THE MIGRATION INTENSITY

This section indicates the results of the tests applied to the hypotheses stated in section I of Chapter II. An attempt is made to explain the variation in the number of migrants according to certain characteristics of the place to which migrants moved. The distance over which migration occurred is treated as an independent variable.

The analysis in this section first treats data which were aggregated into the fifteen study subregions and then deals with the results obtained directly from the questionnaire survey. Much of the former data was obtained from D.B.S. sources and as 1961 was the year of the last complete census, the number of migrants to each area refers to the calculated in-migration and net-migration over the period 1961 to 1966. Stepwise regression was applied to the aggregated data, while simple correlation and regression was used for the data referring to individual migrants.

Table IV summarizes the results of the stepwise regression analysis. The table shows two regression calculations, one using in-migration calculated from the questionnaire survey returns, and the other using net-migration calculated from the D.B.S. data, as the dependent variable. The only other difference between the two analyses is that in one the labour force (as measured by the number of people in the twenty-five to sixty-four year age group)¹ is included as an independent variable.

Table IV demonstrates that for migration movements to locations within the County very few of the hypotheses are verified and doubt is thrown on others. Even the signs of some of the regression coefficients are not as postulated.

1. The number of migrants moving between two points is seen to be related positively, but not significantly, to the general level of education in the area of destination. Both regressions suggest that this variable may explain a high proportion of the variation in the dependent variable but, because of the very high standard errors, further research, with a much larger number of subregions, would be needed to determine whether or not the high degree of apparent explanation could be found other than merely by chance.

2. The number of migrants moving between two points is shown, suprisingly, to be related negatively to the level of income in the area of destination. The negative sign of both regressions, even though the coefficients are insignificant, suggests that motives other than those of an economic nature may be of significance. Moreover, in the regression using net-

¹Although the labour force participation rate should be applied to the population to obtain the probable size of the labour force, the participation rate varies spatially and is unknown for the County. The actual labour force must vary according to the number of people in the working age group.

TABLE IV

SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE STEPWISE REGRESSION ANALYSES¹
(No. of Migrants as Dependent Variable)

VARIABLE (REFERS TO PLACE OF DESTINATION)	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	PROPORTION OF VARIATION EXPLAINED
No. Persons not now in school with over 3 year's high school education (1961)	0.0961 ² 1.2100 ³	0.9960 ² 0.9818 ³
Mean wage earnings (1961)	-0.0301 ² -0.1075 ³	0.0000 ² 0.0027 ³
% Population change (1956 - 1961)	-1.1900 ² -1.7230 ³	0.0002 ² 0.0008 ³
Total Population (1961)	0.6000 ^{2*} -0.1280 ³	0.0003 ² 0.0000 ³
No. persons 25 to 64 years old (1961)	0.3081 ³	0.0035 ³
TOTAL variation		0.9966 ²
accounted for		0.9892 ³

¹ Appendix V contains the complete regression tables.

² No. migrants to the area, calculated from questionnaires.

³ Net-migration in the area, calculated from D.B.S. data.

* Significant at 5% level.

(Significance tested by variance analysis (Ezekiel & Fox, 1967, pp. 395-405) using the computed 'T' & 'F' values)

migration as the dependent variable, the sign of the coefficient will probably be negative in over ninety-six percent of such samples.

3. The rate of population change in the previous period in an area is shown to be of no significance in explaining the number of migrants to that area. The negative sign is interesting, however, and may reflect the fact that rates of out-migration and in-migration are not independent of each other (Bogue, 1959, p. 502). Furthermore, the sign of the coefficient will probably be negative in over eighty-one percent of the cases. The rate of population decline of an area is obviously related to the rate of out-migration from that area.

4a. The number of migrants moving between two points is probably related positively to the total population in the area of destination. One of the regression coefficients is significant and positive in sign, while the other is insignificant and negative. The large standard error for the negative, and insignificant coefficient, indicates that the negative sign occurred merely by chance. The positive regression coefficient of 0.6 magnitude is, however, significant at the five percent level.

4b. Table XIII, in Chapter V, shows that the larger places, in the County at least, do not have greater relative importance as origins of migrants than do the smaller places. Thus, the hypothesis that the number of migrants moving between two points is related positively to the population in the area of origin is thrown into doubt. There were a large number of migrants to the County from Edmonton and Calgary (28 and 18 respectively) but the proportion of migrants from these two cities was less than the proportion of the provincial population resident in them. The proportion of

migrants from other parts of the Province is, therefore, greater than the proportion of the provincial population resident in these places. The size of the population at the place of origin appears to be of little significance in affecting the incidence of migration from the place or origin.

5. The number of migrants moving between two points is positively, but not significantly, related to the number of persons in the twenty-five to sixty-four year-old age group.

In the cases (1) to (5), above, where no significant relationship between the dependent and independent variable was found, the explanation lies in the large standard errors of estimate which are due probably to the small number of subregions in this particular part of the analysis.

6. There remains one hypothesis in this section to be tested, namely, that the number of migrants moving between two points is negatively related to the distance separating the point of origin and destination.

Correlation and regression analysis of the number of migrants versus the distance over which migration occurred revealed values of -0.01984 and -0.00002 , respectively for migratory moves within the County, and 0.12036 and 0.00421 , for moves to the County from other places in Alberta. The data here refer to the results of the questionnaire survey and the analysis has considered all the moves of respondents who migrated during the study period.

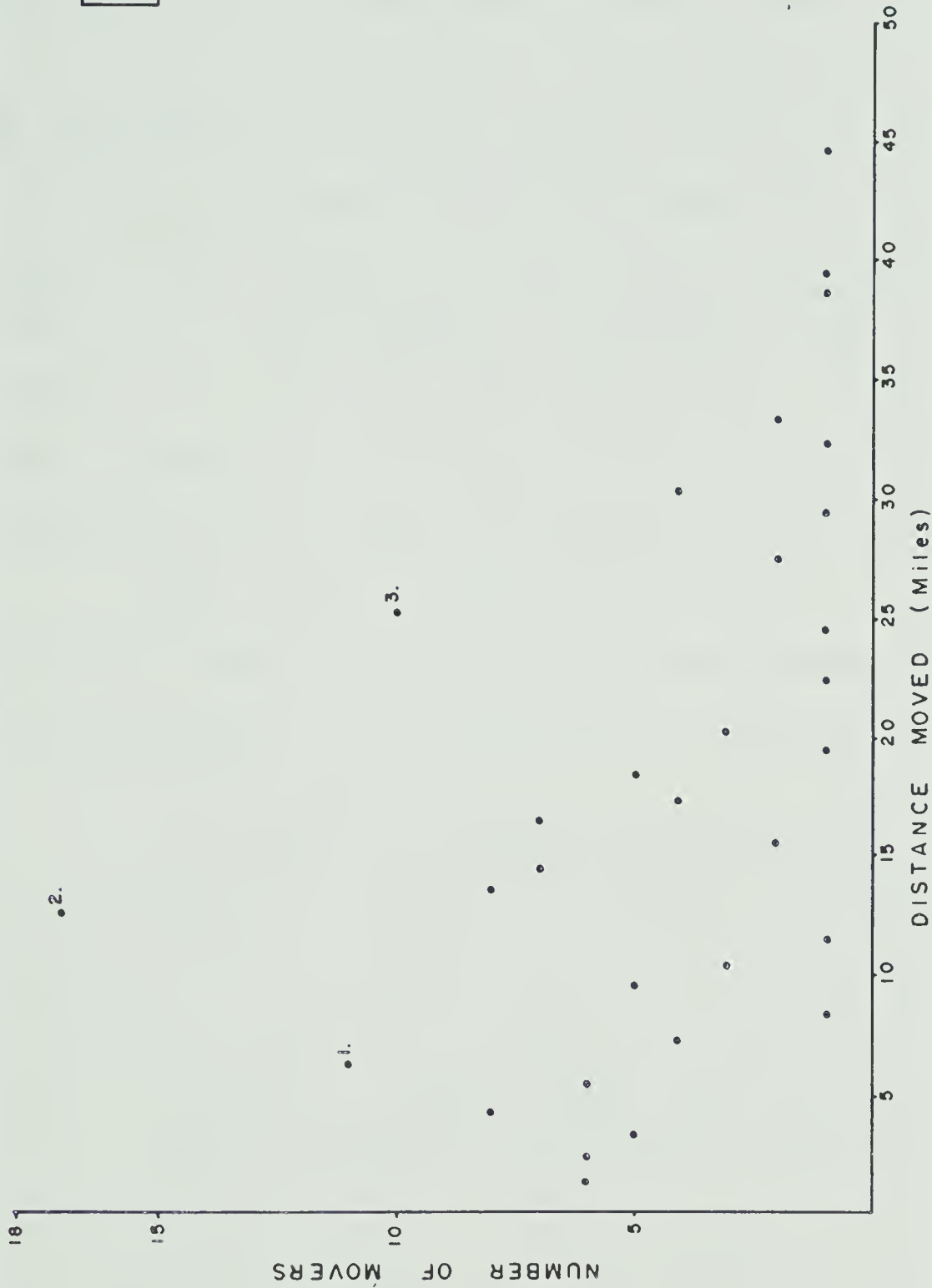
The coefficients for the migratory moves within the County are significant at the five percent level, but those for migrations to the County are completely insignificant. Moreover, the negative sign for the

migrations internal to the County is as postulated and distance is seen to be a significant factor affecting the frequency of short-distance moves. The sign for the long-distance moves will probably be positive in over eighty-five percent of such samples and may be explained by the large number of migrants from Edmonton and Calgary. A large number of families were transferred to the County by the migrant's employer (33 migrants out of 150 from Alberta replied that their main reason for migrating was because of a transfer); to these people distance is obviously of no relevance. Moves internal to the County on the other hand are based on a private decision and no migrant household received assistance with the removal expenses from his or her employer.

The low values of the regression coefficient may reflect the mobility, technology and affluence of the residents of Alberta. Hagerstrand (1967, p. 118) suggests that differences in the effect of distance as a barrier to movement may reflect real differences in the technology of one area compared with another.

Figure 5 shows a scattergram of the relationship of the number of migrants to the distance migrated. There is no obvious trend-line through the scatter but the clustering between the five and fifteen mile distance would suggest that the line of best fit approaches an asymptotic curve of the quadraditic type rather than a straight line.

None of the hypotheses stated in Chapter II are verified clearly and only two of them: (a) the number of migrants moving between two points is related positively to the population at the destination, and (b) the number of migrants moving between two points is related negatively to the distance between the point of origin and destination, are verified partially.



NUMBER OF MIGRANTS
RELATED TO
DISTANCE MIGRATED
(WITHIN THE COUNTY)

- 1. MIGRANTS BETWEEN GRANDE PRAIRIE & CLAIRMONT & VICE VERSA.
- 2. MIGRANTS BETWEEN GRANDE PRAIRIE & SEXSMITH & VICE VERSA.
- 3. MIGRANTS BETWEEN GRANDE PRAIRIE & BEAVERLODGE & VICE VERSA.

II. THE DISTANCE MIGRATED

The distance over which migratory movements occur is taken as the dependent variable and related to each of several other variables. All the data in this section refers to the results obtained directly from the questionnaire survey and, therefore, refers to the migrations of respondents over the period June 1956 to June 1967². Correlation and regression analysis was used to ascertain the significance of the hypotheses in part 2 of the statement of hypotheses included in Chapter II. The results of the analysis are summarized in Table V, and the effect of distance on migratory moves within the County is compared with the effect of distance on migratory moves to the County from other places in Alberta.

Table V shows that most of the hypotheses in this section are verified, at least as far as the sign of the relationship is concerned, but only one set of the coefficients has a significant value.

1. The length of a migratory movement is shown to be positively, but not significantly, related to the income of the migrant. The sign is as postulated and has a probability of greater than 0.86 of being positive in any similar sample. It is interesting to note that the mean income level of the migrants is probably higher than that of the total County population. (The word 'probably' is important for the comparative data comes from the 1961 D.B.S. census. It may be that over the intervening six years from the 1961 census to the time of the field survey, real differences in the average income level were being revealed anyway.) Although the mean

²One hundred thirty-seven respondents migrated within the County and 150 migrated to the County from other places in Alberta.

TABLE V

SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE CORRELATION
AND REGRESSION ANALYSIS¹

(Migration Distance As Dependent Variable)

VARIABLE (REFERS TO THE MIGRANT)	MIGRATIONS TO THE COUNTY FROM PLACES WITHIN ALBERTA		MIGRATIONS WITHIN THE COUNTY	
	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT
Income	0.1395	14.5690	0.0169	0.9450
Age	0.0336	2.7612	-0.2650**	-1.2547**
Education Level Completed	0.989	5.8410	-0.1180	-0.5073
Size of the Migrant House- hold	-0.0207	-5.3300	-0.0446	-0.5092
Multiple Correl- ation Coefficient (r)	r=0.1857 r ² =0.0345		r=0.4069** r ² =0.1655	

¹Appendix V contains the complete regression tables and correlation matrices.

** Significant at 1% level.

(Significance tested by variance analysis (Ezekiel & Fox, 1967, pp. 395-405) using the computed 'T' & 'F' values)

income of all the wage earners in the County was \$2,413 (in 1961) the mean income of migrants moving within the County was about \$3,500 (in 1967) and that for migrants to the County from other places in Alberta was about \$5,300 (in 1967). The difference in the mean income between the group of migrants moving within the County, and the group of migrants moving to the County, is marked, and probably reflects real differences in the comparative level of education³.

The comparisons suggested that personal income is important in increasing the probability of a potential migrant becoming an actual migrant, but the data is insufficient to determine exactly whether personal income is a factor facilitating the move or is a factor attracting migrants to a particular area.

2. The length of a migratory movement is related significantly and negatively to the age of the migrant for moves within the County; the negative sign is as postulated. The positive sign for migrations to the County poses a problem even though the regression coefficient does not have a significant value. The positive sign may be explained in the same way that the difference in signs for the number of migrants versus the distance relationship was explained. The large number (22 percent) of migrants who were transferred to the County by their employers, and to whom the distance migrated is, therefore, of no consequence, may explain this positive sign. On the other hand, there is a probability of nearly 0.36 that the sign, for the distance/age relationship for moves to the County from Alberta, would be found to be negative with a similar sample. Another

³Correlation coefficients of 0.304 and 0.346 for the correlation of migrant-income against migrant-education, for movers within and to the County respectively, were significant at the 1% level.

explanation is that the age distribution differed between the two groups of migrants so that the mean age of migrants moving within the County was in the 40 to 44 year old group, while that for migrants to the County from other places in Alberta was in the 30 to 34 year old group. The greater age of the internal migrants is explained largely by the large number (30 percent) who moved in order to retire or because they were widowed just prior to the move. Both of these groups moved only short distances because they wished to stay near their friends or relatives, so that distance presented quite a psychological barrier to these people.

3. The length of a migratory movement is seen to be related positively to the personal education of a migrant moving to the County from Alberta, but related negatively to the personal education of a migrant moving within the County. Neither of the regression coefficients is significant. The positive sign is as postulated but the negative sign for migrations within the County is difficult to explain. It may reflect simply that many of the people who migrated within the County from rural to urban areas for retirement had little formal education.

Although the relationship is not shown to be significant it is interesting to note that the mean education level of the migrant group is probably somewhat higher than that of the County population as a whole. Similar emphasis on the word 'probably' applies as in (1) above. Whereas the mean education level attained by the total population of the County (of those not in school at the time of the 1961 census) in 1961 was grades 6 to 7, the mean education level for migrants moving within the County was grades 9 to 10 (moves over the period 1956 to 1967) and the mean educational level for migrants moving to the County from other places in Alberta was grades 11 to 12 (moves over the period 1956 to 1967). Moreover,

sixty percent of the migrants from other places in Alberta had completed grade twelve matriculation or more, compared with only sixteen percent of the migrants moving within the County. The comparative data suggests that personal education is important in increasing a person's likelihood of migrating and the insignificance of the regression coefficients suggest further that once the decision to migrate has been made, the distance over which the migration occurs is of very little significance and it does not matter to the migrant whether the distance is short or long.

4. The length of a migratory movement is related negatively, but not significantly to the size of the migrant household. The negative sign is as postulated and will probably be negative in over seventy-three percent of such samples. Therefore, the size of a household possibly has some negative effect on the ease of migratory movements.

The lack of significance of many of the hypotheses suggests that besides the reasons already stated, distance is really of little importance as a barrier to movement in the Alberta setting. Furthermore, although the multiple correlation of migrant income, age, education, and size of migrant household against the distance migrated, is significant for moves within the County, it is not significant for moves to the County. There may be numerous subjective reasons for a person to change his place of residence and the normally acceptable rational criteria of human movement may not warrant the importance placed on them. Section four of this Chapter will present other characteristics and motives of the migrants.

Distance too poses a problem, especially when considering migrations from other places in Alberta. The pattern of movement is lineal,

from the south, rather than being normally distributed about the area of destination, and Edmonton and Calgary account for 36.5 percent of all the origins of migratory movements to the County from other places in Alberta.

Olsson (1965, p. 20) says that

"Variations in individual migration distances can be fully understood only if the spacing of places is studied concomitantly; ... the relationships between spacing and migration distance become extremely intricate."

III. THE PROBABILITY OF A HOUSEHOLD MIGRATING

1. The probability of a potential migrant becoming an actual migrant is associated with the occupation of the head of the migrant household so that the probability of migration is job selective. The proportion of professional, trades and business personnel in the migrant group was found to be higher than the proportion for the County population as a whole. Whereas this group occupied 33.4 percent of the labour force of the group of migrants moving within the County, the proportion reached 41.0 percent in the group from other places in Alberta and 36.7 percent for the group from all other places outside Alberta. The proportion of the labour force of the total County population in this category comprised only 31.4 percent. The figures not only show that there is a greater proportion of professional and kindred workers in the migrant group than in the total population, but suggest that job selectivity increases in importance for long distance moves.

2. The probability of a household migrating is related clearly and positively to the occurrence of a friend or relative in the area of destination.

Table VI, below, summarizes the replies to questions about the importance of friends and relatives in influencing the decision to migrate. The table shows clearly that friends and relatives are very important in

TABLE VI
RESPONSES OF MIGRANTS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE
OF FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN AFFECTING
THE DECISION TO MIGRATE

QUESTION	MIGRANT FROM:					
	WITHIN COUNTY		OTHER ALBERTA		OUTSIDE ALBERTA	
	NUMBER OF RESPONSES		NUMBER OF RESPONSES		NUMBER OF RESPONSES	
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Was your move preceded by a similar move of a friend or relative?	4	133	29	122	26	42
Percent Yes	2.9		19.2		38.0	
How did you obtain information about the place you moved to? (Percent friends and relatives)	33.5		33.8		62.0	
What was the <u>main</u> reason for your migrating? (Percent to be near friends or relatives)	4.4		10.6		32.3	

Source: Field Survey, June and July, 1967.

affecting the decision to migrate. The responses to each question show that the importance of personal contacts increases with the distance from the point of origin. Wolpert (1965, p. 162) says that "the stream of information is important in long distance migration - information about prospects must somehow compensate for the absence of personal experience."

IV. OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MIGRANTS

All the characteristics of the migrants are shown in Appendix VI but this section will elaborate briefly on some of the characteristics, especially those which seem to have bearing on the decision to migrate.

The characteristics considered here:

1. The manner in which information about the place of destination was obtained by the migrant.
2. Whether or not the migrant had employment or accommodation arranged prior to migrating.
3. Whether or not the migrant intended to migrate again in the near future.

1. Wolpert (1965, p. 162) mentions the importance of information levels and how they affect the decision to migrate. The table below summarizes the ways in which information about the place of destination was obtained.

TABLE VII
SUMMARY OF THE WAYS IN WHICH INFORMATION ABOUT THE
DESTINATION WAS OBTAINED

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	NUMBER OF RESPONSES							
	NEWS- PAPER	PRIVATE ARRANGE- MENT	RELA- TIVES	FRIENDS	LIVED NEARBY	SIMPLY TRANS- FERRED	OTHER	NO RESPONSE
Within County	9	17	27	19	40	5	11	6
Other Alberta	12	22	33	18	1	35	13	15
Outside Alberta	3	2	33	9	-	10	6	1

The importance of personal contact with a relative or friend was mentioned in Section III, above, and the table elaborates on this. Sixty-six percent of all the migrants moved on the basis of personal contact with friends, relatives, future employer or simply because they happened to live nearby and were therefore familiar with the destination. The last group was composed mainly of people who migrated in order to retire.

2. The incidence of job and accommodation arrangements before migrating increased with the distance over which the migration occurred; Table VIII, below, summarizes the data. Again the importance of information and security in order to reduce the chance of a 'bad move' (from the point of view of disappointment or failure) is revealed especially by the large proportion of migrants from outside Alberta who had arranged accommodation prior to migrating.

TABLE VIII

PERCENT RESPONDENTS WITH JOB OR ACCOMMODATION
ARRANGED BEFORE MIGRATING

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	PERCENT WITH PRIOR ARRANGEMENT	
	JOB	ACCOMMODATION
Within County	60.0	76.5
Other Alberta	75.0	57.5
Outside Alberta	60.0	72.0

The high percentage of prior job arrangements by migrants from other places in Alberta reflects probably the high incidence of job

transfers within this group; the low percentage for the migrants moving within the County is probably due to the large proportion of retired people who migrated within the County.

3. The number of migrants expecting to migrate again in the near future was thought to reflect the disappointment about the initial destination. It was thought that the people intending to migrate again in the near future had not realized the benefits they had anticipated before their initial migration. Table IX summarizes the response to this question.

TABLE IX
THE INCIDENCE OF, AND REASONS FOR,
AN IMPENDING MIGRATION

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	REASONS FOR MIGRATING AGAIN				
	(Number of Responses)				(Percent)
	BETTER OPPOR- TUNITY	'TO ESCAPE'	TRANSFER	OTHER	BETTER OPPOR- TUNITY AND ESCAPE AS % OF TOTAL INI- TIAL MIGRANTS
Within County	7	2	-	4	6.6
Other Alberta	9	5	12	6	9.3
Outside Alberta	6	2	3	3	11.8

The proportion of disappointed migrants is seen to increase with the distance over which these migrants moved initially. Implicit in this increase of disappointment with distance is the fact that information about a potential destination decreased with distance so that the probability of a migrant not realizing the expected benefits of migrating increases with

the distance migrated. Of the fifty-nine migrants who had definite plans for an impending move, fifty-four indicated that they would be moving out of the County. Besides this group of people with definite plans to move, there were a large number of respondents who indicated a desire to move, especially to areas of better climate such as Vancouver or the Okanagan.

This chapter has shown the results of tests applied to some of the migration hypotheses and, although many of the results are not as expected, an attempt has been made to explain the reasons for the apparent deviations from the 'normal'. The next chapter will discuss the migration patterns observable within the County and the subregional population changes which are attributable to migration.

CHAPTER V

THE MIGRATION PATTERNS OBSERVABLE WITHIN THE COUNTY

The Chapter is divided into four sections: population change due to net migration, the pattern of rural-urban moves, the pattern of multiple moves, and the migratory movements among all the subregions within the County.

I. NET MIGRATION

Rates of population change due to net-migration over the periods 1956 to 1961 and 1961 to 1966 are shown by study subregions in Figures 6 and 7 respectively, while the absolute population change due to net-migration is shown in Appendix IV. During the period 1956 - '61 net-migration contributed sixty-five persons to the County population whilst in the latter period the population increase attributable to net-migration accounted for 1,097 persons. Although the County as a whole showed net-migration gains in each period, many of the study subregions within the County showed net-migration losses and the rates of gain or loss vary widely throughout the County and for each time period. Net-migration is, therefore, rapidly redistributing the population throughout the County. A comparison of Figure 6 with Figure 7 reveals that only two places; Beaverlodge, a town, and Grande Prairie, a city, consistently gained population by net-migration during both periods.

Figure 6 shows that during the five years from 1956, six of the fifteen study subregions had net-migration gains. Three of these subregions were urban areas and while the other three subregions all encompassed rural areas, they were adjacent to Grande Prairie. The four townships closest to



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

LEUNG KEE DO

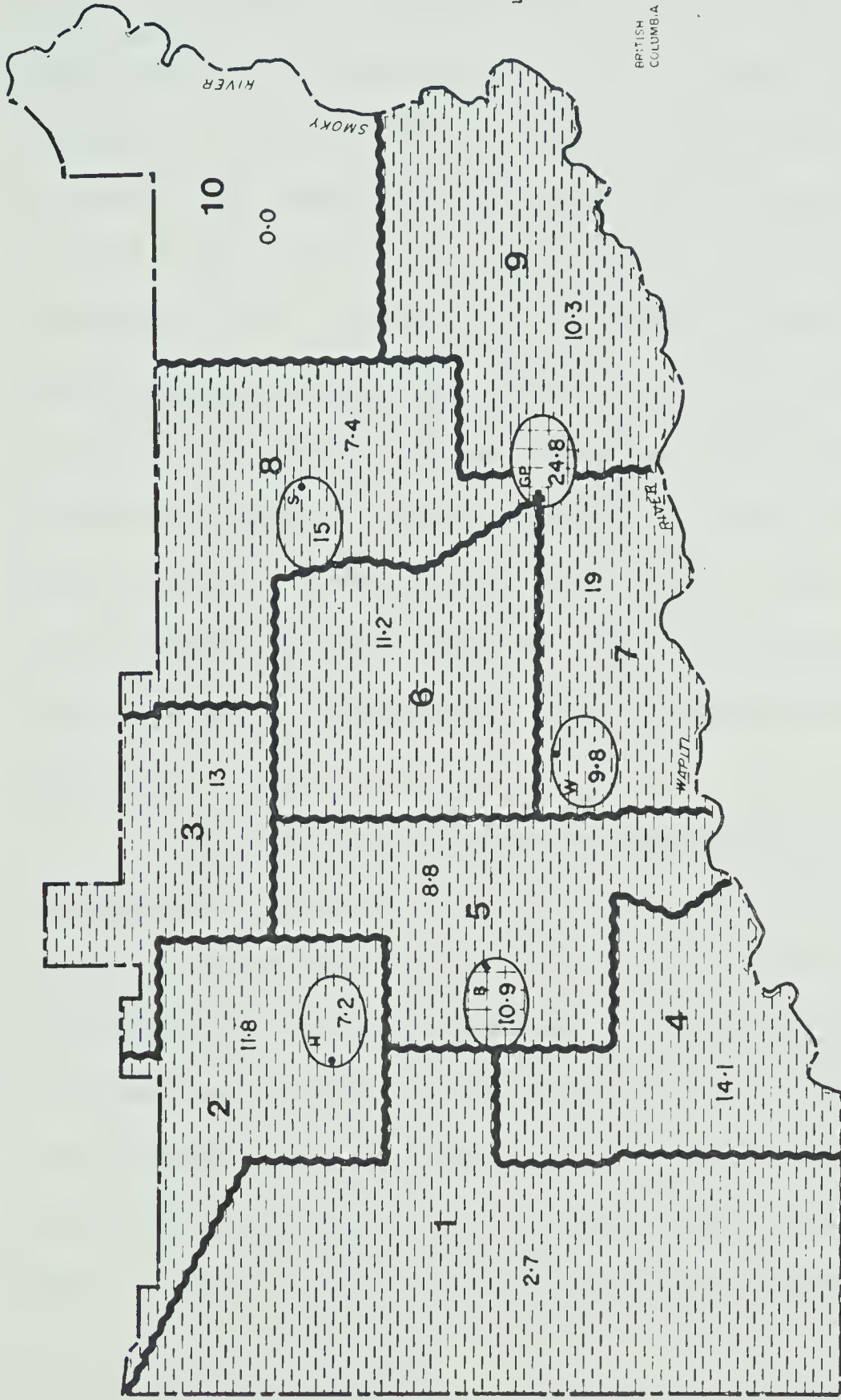
	NET INCREASE	NET DECREASE	% CHANGE
1			14

 RURAL SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY
 URBAN SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY
 COUNTY BOUNDARY

SOURCE D.B.S. Census 1956 & 1961

P J M August, 1968

7



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



LEGEND

NET INCREASE



NET DECREASE



% CHANGE



RURAL SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY



URBAN SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY



COUNTY BOUNDARY



POPULATION CHANGE
DUE TO NET MIGRATION 1961-'66



COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

P J M August, 1968

SOURCE D B S Census 1961 & 1966

that city all registered large population gains over the five-year period and may reflect a growing rural non-farm population.

In one of the subregions, subregion No. 8, the growth of the hamlet of Clairmont, from 164 persons in 1956 to 292 persons in '61¹, accounted for sixty-eight percent of all the population increase in the subregion. Figure 7, however, shows a contrasting picture in that only two subregions, Beaverlodge and Grande Prairie, had net-migration gains over the period 1961 to '66. Furthermore, it is interesting to note (see Appendix IV) that the total population increased in only two rural subregions and two urban subregions over the latter period, and in five rural subregions and four urban subregions in the former period. In the case where a subregion shows net-migration losses simultaneously with an absolute population decline, the net-migration loss exceeds even the natural increase in the subregion. Thus in all but four subregions, over the period 1961 to 1966, natural increase was exceeded by the net-migration loss.

The rural population losses, especially the losses through net-migration, are thought to reflect three particular phenomena: (1) the abandonment of small farms settled hastily on poor or marginal soils, (2) farm labour-force adjustments with increasing agricultural mechanization and the concomitant population decline as the average size of farm holding tends to become larger, and (3) the preference of retiring farm-folk to live in an urban area. The last reason is of the greatest importance. Of the forty respondents who migrated, between 1956 and 1967 within

¹Of the nine respondents who migrated to Clairmont over the period 1956 to 1961, six migrated from Grande Prairie and of these four did so because they preferred living in a hamlet or rural area rather than "bustling" Grande Prairie, the place of their work.

the County, in order to retire², twenty-nine migrated from rural to urban areas. Only two migrated from an urban to a rural area. Section II elaborates on rural-urban migration.

Net-migration losses from the rural subregions may reflect the continuing trend toward the centralization of services in the largest centres. The central place function of all the small centres, as reflected by retail sales figures, is declining, whereas retail sales in the two largest centres have shown consistent increases. The rural population decline, in so far as these people were formerly located in the market area of the small central places, is obviously a large component explaining the decrease in the retail sales of small centres. Table X shows the retail sales of the five urban subregions for each of four years, 1963 to 1967.

The table shows that only Wembley, Beaverlodge, and Grande Prairie had consistent increases in total retail sales over the four-year period and that the increase for Wembley is all but negligible. Comparable retail sales data were obtained for only one hamlet, Valhalla Centre, and its total-annual retail sales declined consistently from \$245,893 to \$114,363 over the four-year period. Table X further shows that whereas sales of food, beverage and general merchandise increased over the four-year period in all five centres, the decrease in the sales of automotive products generally offset any gains in the former category. Sales of automotive products in Sexsmith decreased from \$511,360 in 1963 to \$360,611 in 1966 and those for Hythe decreased from \$333,603 to \$184,811 over the same period. The magnitude of the decline in sales of automotive products suggests that farmers

²Thirty-two respondents gave retirement as the first reason, while another eight indicated that retirement was the second main reason for migrating.

TABLE X
ANNUAL RETAIL SALES¹ IN SELECTED CENTRES
1963 - 1966² (\$000's)

URBAN SUBREGION	GOODS BOUGHT	1963	1964	1965	1966
Hythe	Food etc.	393.0	378.0	404.0	466.2
	Automotive	333.6	296.4	201.8	184.8
	Total	726.6	674.4	605.9	651.0
Beaverlodge	Food etc.	853.1	853.1	810.7	979.0
	Automotive	824.2	944.0	1,074.2	1,073.5
	Total	1,935.2	1,991.2	2,317.5	2,518.9
Wembley	Food etc.	Confidential	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Automotive		N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total		244.0	244.2	244.5
Sexsmith	Food etc.	266.7	313.3	394.7	559.2
	Automotive	511.4	498.4	450.4	360.6
	Total	981.5	811.6	845.1	919.8
Grande Prairie	Food etc.	4,470.0	6,606.8	7,317.0	8,410.4
	Automotive	6,029.0	6,230.7	7,222.5	7,582.5
	Total	14,548.9	16,929.4	20,004.0	22,670.4

¹Source: (Pers. Comm., J. F. Clancy, Alberta Bureau of Statistics, Edmonton, 1968).

²Retail trade statistics prior to 1963 were not compiled on a comparable basis.

N/A - Not available.

as well as local residents are obtaining their automotive products in the largest central places where they are offered the widest possible selection of product brands and prices.

The trend for all but the largest central places to decline in population is likely to continue as automobiles and highways are being constantly improved and as the local school board has a policy of centralizing school services so that the high school which was at Wembley in 1966/67 was moved to Beaverlodge for the 1967/68 year. Post Office functions too are being centralized and the Dimsdale Post Office, eight miles west of Grande Prairie, was closed in 1966 with the people now being served from Grande Prairie by a rural route.

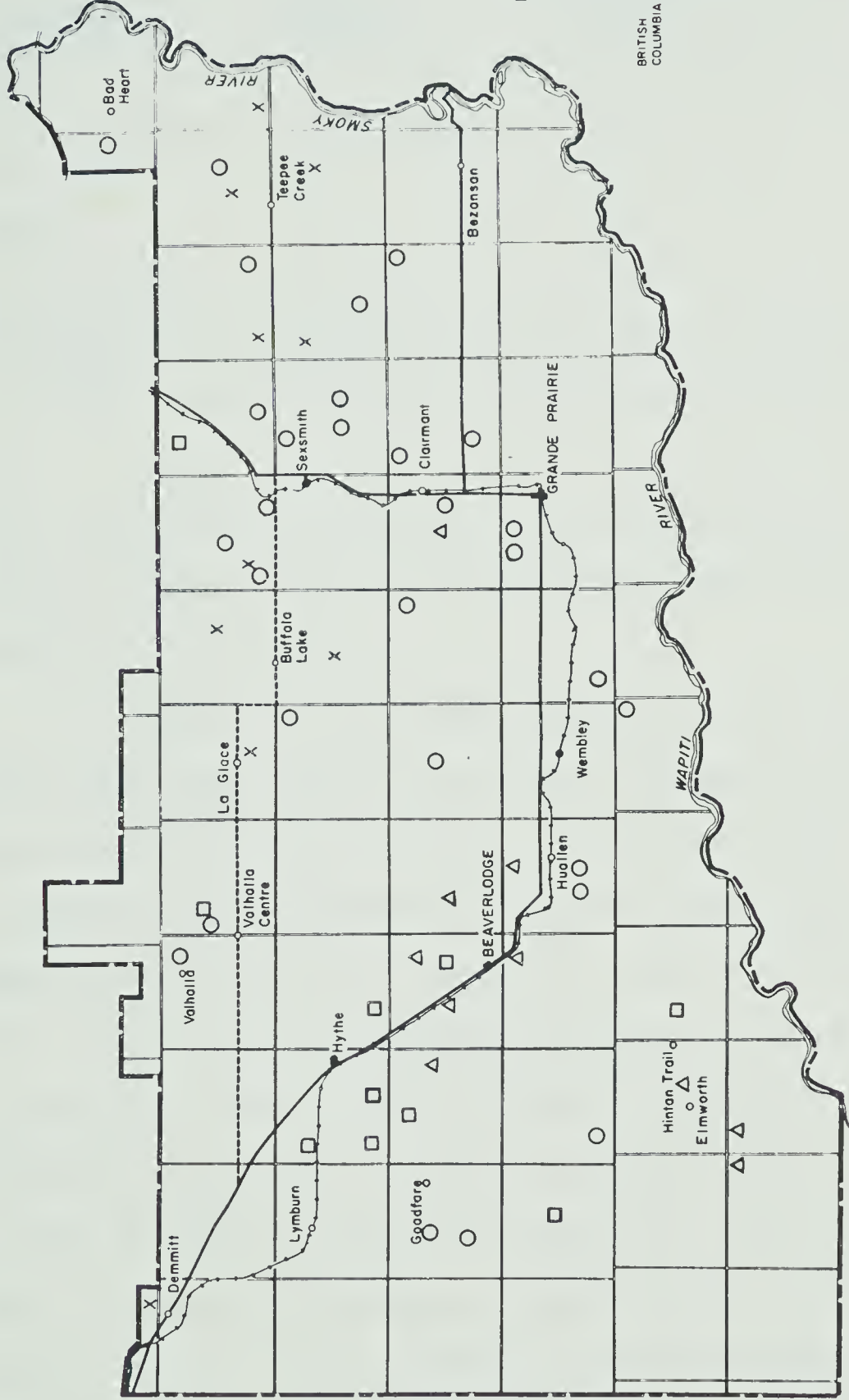
II. RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

Rural-urban migration was mentioned in Section I (above), the aim here is simply to elaborate on the observed pattern of population redistribution through the migration of rural dwellers to the urban environment.

Rural-urban migrations accounted for 44.0 percent of all moves of respondents who migrated within the County over the period 1956 to 1967. The next largest groups of migrants within the County moved from urban areas to urban areas and urban areas to rural areas, each group containing about twenty percent of the migrations.

Figure 8 shows the pattern of rural-urban migration to the four urban subregions attracting rural people. Table XI, below, which summarizes the pattern of moves shown on Figure 8, reveals that twenty-nine of the fifty-nine rural-urban migrants moved to Grande Prairie and ten migrated to each of the other urban subregions shown. It is interesting

8



LOCATION, COUNTY OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE



LEGEND

--- HIGHWAYS

• TOWN

--- RAILWAY

• VILLAGE

--- COUNTY BOUNDARY

• HAMLETS

□ MOVE TO HYTHE

△ MOVE TO BEAVERLODGE

× MOVE TO SEXSMITH

○ MOVE TO GRANDE PRAIRIE

RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

1956 - 1967

(RESPONDENTS ONLY)

Miles 5 0 5 Miles

COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

SOURCE: Dept. of Mines & Technical Surveys, 1963 & Field Survey

P. J. M. August, 1968

TABLE XI
SUMMARY OF THE PATTERN OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATIONS

DESTINATION	NUMBER MIGRANTS	MEAN DISTANCE MIGRATED (MILES)	MEDIAN DISTANCE MIGRATED (MILES)
Hythe	10	10	6
Beaverlodge	10	12	12
Sexsmith	10	19	15
Grande Prairie	29	17	16
TOTAL	59		

that no respondents indicated a migration from a rural area to Wembley and this probably reflects the smallness and declining central-place function of that village.

Three of the four urban subregions shown, attracted most people from nearby areas. The mean and median distances over which migrants moved from rural areas to each of the four urban centres were calculated and in all cases except for Beaverlodge the areal distribution is positively skewed towards the place of destination; that is the median distance travelled is less than the mean distance travelled. In the case of Beaverlodge the curve was 'normal' in that the mean and median coincided. It is also interesting to note that of the three skewed curves, that for Grande Prairie was least skewed and approximated closely the normal curve, while that for Hythe had the greatest skewness. The difference in the skewness of the curves of the rural-urban migration distances is thought, by the writer, to reflect real differences in migrant attitudes. The difference, as the skewness is least for the two largest centres and these were the only sub-

regions with consistent net-migration gains, suggests that once a rural migrant has to move more than a very short distance to an urban centre, he would rather move a much longer distance to a large urban centre.

The effect of distance as a barrier to migration was further tested by the use of the potential model. The equation:

$$M_{ij} = \frac{P_j}{D_{ij}^a} \dots\dots (2)$$

was used, in which M_{ij} is the number of migrants who moved from areas i to point j , P_j is the population at point j , and D_{ij} is the median distance migrated from areas i to point j . The exponent 'a' ranged from 0.47 to 0.70³, and averaged 0.55, for the rural migrations to each of the four urban areas shown on Figure 8. Although further research must obviously be carried out, that the exponent of distance approaches 0.5, again emphasises that distance is only of limited importance as a barrier to migration in the Alberta setting. As has already been mentioned, Hagerstrand (1967, p. 118) explains the much lower exponents for distance, that have been found in North America compared with Europe, may be due to differences in the economics and technology of transportation and communication between the two continents.

Retirement was given as the reason for migrating to an urban area by twenty-nine of the fifty-nine respondents who migrated from a rural to an urban area. Seventeen respondents gave employment in the urban area as their main reason for migrating and just over half of these were young people in their early twenties. Family status change and familial dependency on another person each accounted for five of the migration

³'a' was obtained simply by transposing terms in equation (2). For example, if $M = P/D^a$, then $D^a = P/M$ and, $a \cdot \log D = \log P/M$, therefore, $a = \frac{\log P/M}{\log D}$.

reasons given. Of the fifty-nine rural-urban migrants forty-one indicated that they had once been farmers. Separate tables for ex-farmers from within the County and from other places in Alberta were not compiled but as there were only nine ex-farmers from outside the County, Table XII, below, which presents the reasons stated for leaving the farm, gives a fairly accurate picture of the "push-effect" from the rural areas.

TABLE XII
REASONS FOR LEAVING THE FARM

REASON	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS
Death of a Relative	5
Sons Did Not Want the Farm	5
Retirement	10
Late Preference for Other Employment	6
Insufficient Return	20
Other	4
TOTAL	50

The Table shows that lack of income was the most important factor predisposing farmers to leave the farm and nearly all of these men indicated that lack of capital, insufficient land, or several years of poor crops forced them off the land. Furthermore, a large number of farmers indicated a desire to leave the farm subject to their obtaining a good price for their land. A study in Alberta Census Division No. 12 revealed that twenty-five percent of the farmers in that census division were interested in moving off the farm (Alberta, Dept. Agriculture, 1967). In commenting on the need

for farm capital a Royal Commission in Saskatchewan stated that:

"Large scale investment in land and machinery is a necessary prerequisite for success in agriculture today. For the large-scale operator this capital investment can frequently be met out of income and savings, and if not, credit is usually readily available. For the small operator, however, capital investment is the main barrier to economic efficiency." (Saskatchewan, 1956, p. 29).

Table 'XII also shows that several sons of farmers did not want the farm and this indicates the desire on the part of the young for the benefits of urban living. Many young migrants indicated to the writer that entertainment, recreation and the proximity to friends were the most important urban attractive forces.

"The material comforts of urban living are becoming more attainable for farm people as a result of greater mobility made possible by the automobile, better roads, higher average farm income, and improved rural-urban communication through press, radio, and, more recently through television. Changes in rural attitudes towards material comforts are focusing attention on rural deficiencies in education, transportation, recreation, and home conveniences. This serves to stimulate the movement of people out of agriculture into urban occupations or the partial movement out of agriculture through part or full-time urban residence." (Saskatchewan, 1956, p. 125).

The centralization of services in the largest of centres was mentioned in Section I (above) as a factor explaining the decline of the villages; the centralization of school services is particularly hastening the decline of the small rural hamlet. The move towards centralization of schools, begun in the early 1940's, continues. Demand for graded instruction, the need for high school education and the greater facilities offered at a larger school seem to be the major determinants. The trend to school centralization is very marked in the County. Whereas there were fifty-one single room schools in 1950, there were only thirty-one by 1954 and eight in 1956. There were no schools in the County with less than two

rooms in 1961 and by 1966 no school had less than five rooms. At the same time the number of schools in the County decreased from twenty in 1956 to ten in 1966 (County of Grande Prairie, 1956, 1961, 1966).

Many of the centralizing forces mentioned in this section have been operating for at least two decades and although the trend is likely to continue, the writer expects it to do so at a much slower rate than in the past.

III. THE PATTERN OF MULTIPLE MOVES

This section is very brief and is only included in order that any possible "stepwise" migratory movements from smaller to larger places can be discerned.

Altogether 356 migrants responded reliably to the questionnaire survey (137 migrants who moved within the County, 151 migrants who moved to the County from other places in Alberta, and Sixty-eight migrants who moved to the County from places outside Alberta). Of the 356 respondents, thirty-six migrated more than once over the eleven-year period, 1956 to 1967. Nineteen migrants moved to points outside the County after June 1956, and later returned to the County before June 1967. Of these fourteen went to other places in Alberta. The other nineteen multiple moves were made by migrants moving solely within the County. Eleven families migrated three or more times.

There is no strong pattern evident of any stepwise movement from smaller to larger centres. Five migrant groups moved from smaller to larger places with an intermediate step either within or without the County, but an equal number moved from a larger to a smaller place in a similar fashion. Ten migrant groups moved from Grande Prairie to places outside the County and then back to Grande Prairie all within the eleven-year period,

and six groups returned to their starting point after two internal migrations. Only two groups remain: those who moved to the County first into smaller places and then later moved into larger places, and the group in the reverse situation who first moved to larger places. Seven migrant groups moved to larger places in this fashion, but three groups moved to smaller places.

Thus stepwise migratory movements are of no observable importance in the pattern of migrations either to, or within, the County.

IV. MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS AMONG THE SUBREGIONS

Throughout the eleven-year period, 1956 to 1967, with which this thesis has been concerned, every study subregion received migrants from at least one other subregion and thirteen of the fifteen subregions also received migrants from areas outside the County. Table XIII is a matrix which shows the probable origins of residents living in one of the study subregions at the time of the questionnaire survey. The diagonal row of the table shows the proportion of residents, in each subregion, that probably did not migrate over the eleven-year period 1956 to 1967:

The matrix shows that the urban subregions, except Wembley, received migrants from more places than any of the rural subregions - this is to be expected because of the central place function, or attraction, of the urban areas. Even if the central place function in Hythe and Sexsmith is decreasing, these large villages still attract migrants from far afield and Sexsmith is actually drawing migrants from more distant areas than Beaverlodge. The importance of Grande Prairie as the main focus of the County is clearly seen in that migrants were attracted to Grande Prairie from all but one of the subregions and more than sixty-five percent of the

TABLE XIII

PROBABILITY THAT A RESIDENT OF ONE SUBREGION
ORIGINATED IN ANOTHER SUBREGION,
OR OUTSIDE THE COUNTY, 1956 to 1967¹

FROM	TO (RESIDENTIAL LOCATION AT TIME OF SURVEY)														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	H	B	W	S	G.P.
1	69.2*				4.2						13.7	11.1		3.7	0.8
2		75.0*									9.1				0.4
3			78.3*				5.9							3.7	0.4
4	7.7			95.8*							4.6	3.7			
5					54.1*						4.6	18.5			0.8
6					4.2	68.8*								3.7	2.0
7							76.5*								0.8
8			4.4					54.6*						7.4	4.8
9									66.7*	5.3					1.2
10										94.7*				11.1	1.6
H		12.5		4.2							50.0*		10.0	7.4	1.2
B					4.2							48.2*			2.0
W													70.0*		1.2
S								3.0						48.2*	2.4
G.P.	7.7				4.2	6.3	11.8	21.2	19.0			3.7		7.4	15.8*
Other Alta.	7.7	6.3	8.7		8.3	6.3		18.2	14.3		9.1	14.8	10.0	3.7	46.8
Outside Alta.	7.7	6.3	8.7		20.9	18.8	5.9	3.0			9.1		10.0	3.7	18.3

Source: Questionnaire Survey, June, July, 1967.

¹June Years. Probability per 100 residents living the sub-region in June and July of 1967.

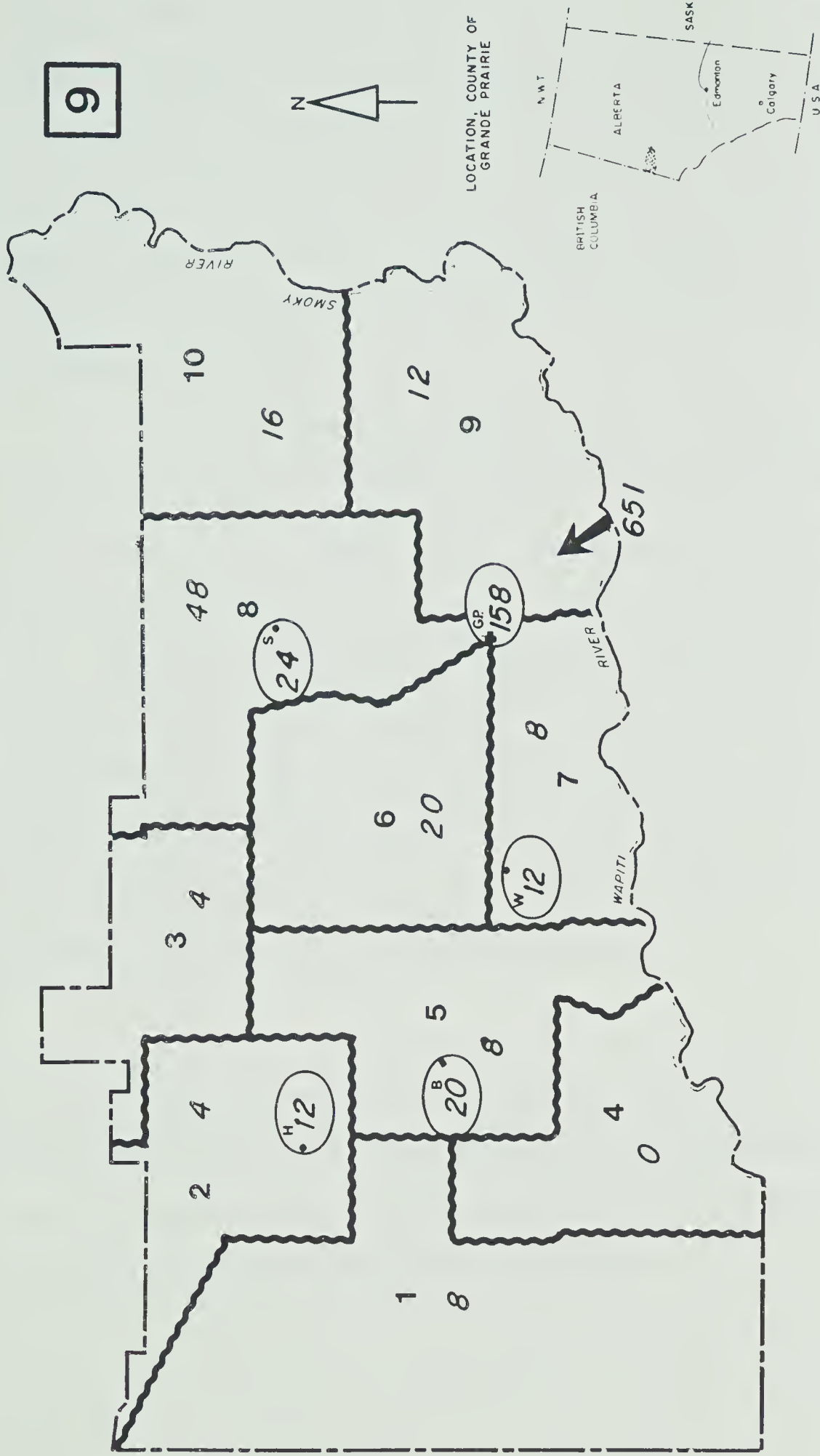
*Probability of residents of the subregion being residents since before June 1956.

Grande Prairie population probably originated in areas outside the County. Figure 9, which will be discussed further later, illustrates the flow of migrants to Grande Prairie and shows the probable origins of Grande Prairie residents.

In Chapter IV, section I, part 4b, it was indicated that the larger places in the County do not have greater relative importance as origins of migrants than do the smaller places. Table XIII demonstrates that the larger places do not increase their relative importance as origins of migrants. Whereas eleven percent of Beaverlodge's population probably came from subregion No. 1, and over eighteen percent probably came from subregion No. 5, less than four percent originated in Grande Prairie.

The diagonal row of the matrix bears several important characteristics. Although the row shows the probable proportion of the population of each subregion which was non-migrant over the eleven-year period, one hundred minus this number gives the probable proportion of the population of each subregion which migrated to that subregion. A comparison of the observable proportion of migrants and the percent population change due to net migration gives an idea of the rate of population turn-over in each subregion. Notable is the fact that in each of the three fastest growing subregions (over the eleven-year period): Beaverlodge, Hythe and Grande Prairie, between three and four times more people were attracted to them than were still resident in them at the end of the period. Thus, between seven and eight migrants must have left these places for every ten who were attracted to them. The three subregions which had the greatest population loss over the period, subregions number: one, two and seven, each lost between twenty and thirty-two migrants for every ten migrants who were attracted to them. Thus, even areas with declining populations attracted

9



LEGEND

--- COUNTY BOUNDARY

— URBAN SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY

~ RURAL SUBREGIONAL BOUNDARY

IN-MIGRANTS FROM OUTSIDE COUNTY

PROBABLE NO. OF PERSONS PER 1000 OF GRANDE PRAIRIE POP. (1967) MIGRATING FROM THE SUBREGION SHOWN

651

20

PROBABLE ORIGIN OF GRANDE PRAIRIE RESIDENTS

1956 - 1967
(PER 1000 RESIDENTS)

0 5 Miles

COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE

migrants; these subregions simply lost far more migrants than they gained. Population growth in the growing centres only continues because the rate of in-migration is greater than the rate of out-migration. However, in addition to the population gain through net-migration the populations of the fastest growing subregions: Beaverlodge and Grande Prairie, are becoming increasingly concentrated in the twenty to fifty-four year old group, the most mobile age group.

Figure 9 shows the probable origin of Grande Prairie residents over the period 1956 to 1967; the figure illustrates the data contained in the last column of Table XIII. The figure shows the flows of migrants to Grande Prairie and that out of every 1,000 residents present in June and July, 1967, 651 of them probably came from outside the County. The next largest group contained 158 people per 1,000 residents and was composed of people who had probably not migrated to Grande Prairie over the eleven-year period. The figure shows also that the probability of a person migrating to Grande Prairie from a rural subregion tends to decrease with the distance that subregion is from Grande Prairie.

This Chapter has: (a) described the pattern of population change, within the County, that is attributable to net-migration, (b) pointed out the importance of the rural-urban migration, and (c) indicated the pattern of migrations both to and within the County.

CONCLUSION

Throughout the thesis the "pull" forces in migratory movements have been emphasized with only brief mention of the "push" forces. Although every migrant must obviously decide to leave a place when he or she goes to another place, very few people leave any location without a future alternative location being established first. Indicative of this is the high incidence of personal contacts of migrants with persons in the place of destination and the importance migrants placed on information about the place of destination. The forces of attraction drawing a migrant to an area are, therefore, thought by the writer, to be of greater significance than the forces of repulsion predisposing persons to seek alternative locations. The only time where the "push" forces seem uppermost, at least in the context of this study, is in those cases where a migrant had a change in family status (death of spouse, divorce, etc.) immediately prior to the move. Whether or not rural-urban migrants leave the farm because of the poor returns from farming or go to an urban area because of the expected better returns in alternative employment, is a moot point.

The lack of confirmation of many of the hypotheses which have become well established may reflect the real differences within small areas in the Alberta setting compared with Sweden where, because of the availability of statistics, much of the work on migration has been carried out. On the other hand the lack of significance of many of the relationships among the data groups and the high standard errors of estimate suggest that further research with an improved sampling design may obtain significantly better results.

The low coefficients for the regression of the number of migrants against the distance migrated reflects probably the mobility of Alberta residents, the value of the component of distance, which approached 0.5, in the potential equation, seems to confirm this conclusion. On the other hand, the lack of significance of the regression of the number of migrants to the County against the distance migrated is probably due to the spacing of central places in Alberta. The spacing of central places should not be ignored in a study of this type and transformations of the data on distances may be necessary to bring the distribution of distances between central places more closely to the normal distribution.

The very low multiple correlation coefficients for the explanation of the distance migrated, by the: age, income, education and family size of the migrant, would suggest that subjective factors are of great importance in predisposing persons to migrate. Migration involves far more than the simple interchange of people. The whole person and his attitude to his environment, as well as his ambitions, is involved. Migrants observed during this study had numerous motives, many of them based on chance, besides economic betterment, in deciding to move from one location to another. The importance of friends and kin, especially in association with the long-distance migrations, is paramount.

The concentration of population in only the largest of urban centres reflects the importance of agglomeration economics. Net-migration to the urban centres is both cause and effect of the concentration of services at these foci and if capital flows in the same direction as labour, net-migration and economic growth emerge as mutually reinforcing phenomena.

Finally, the geographic nature of migration cannot be questioned, for migratory movements occur over space because of the uneven distribution of opportunities and personal locational preferences within space.

GLOSSARY

BASIC DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THE STUDY

1. Migrant – One who changed residence from one urban or rural area to another urban or rural area within the time period under study. The term is used to refer to the head of a migrant household and as the mean size of a migrant household was 2.85 persons for migrations within the County and 3.71 persons for migrations to the County, the number of people migrating from one area to another is obtained by multiplying the number of migrants by the appropriate household-size-factor.
2. Net-Migration – The migration balance of a community or area. It consists of the number of in-migrants minus the number of out-migrants. The net balance may be either positive or negative.
3. In-Migrant – A migrant who migrated into the study area or into one of the subregions within the study area.
4. Out-Migrant – A migrant who migrated out of the study area or out of one of the subregions within the study area.
5. Area of Origin – The area or community from which a migrant migrates.
6. Area of Destination – The area or community to which a migrant migrates.

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APPENDIX I

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

University of Alberta

To the Head of the Household

This questionnaire is confidential and information will only be used for thesis and academic purposes.

1. Have you changed residence since 1956? (check one) Yes ☐ No ☐

2. If you answered No to question 1, disregard the questionnaire but please return it. If you answered Yes, please continue.

3. Address: (a) If you live in a town or city give street, _____
town, _____

(b) If you live in a rural area give rural route number
_____ section number _____ township number
_____ and range number _____

4. Are you married? Yes ☐ No ☐

5. What sex are you? Male ☐ Female ☐

6. How many children have you? _____

7. Ages of all family members: (check one column for each person)

	Age in Years							
	1-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-44	45-59	over 60
Husband (or single male)
Wife (or single female)
Children:								
1
2
3
4
5

8. Were you born in the County of Grande Prairie? Yes ☐ No ☐

9. (a) If you answered No to question 8, when did you first move to the County? _____ (give year)

9. (b) Where did you move from? _____

If from elsewhere in Canada give town and province

If from outside Canada, give country

(c) Which town in the County did you first move to? _____

If you moved to a rural area give the section, township, and range numbers. _____

10. If you answered Yes to question 8, which town or rural locality were you born in? _____

11. You have changed residence since 1956. When did you move? And from where to where? Please complete the table below.

For example:

	<u>Year</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
	1958	Hythe	Beaverlodge
	1961	Beaverlodge	B.C.
	1965	B.C.	S. 31, Twp. 17, R. 6 West of 5th M.
	<u>Year (& month if possible)</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
First move	.....	.....	.....
2nd "	.....	.....	.....
3rd "	.....	.....	.....
4th "	.....	.....	.....
5th "	.....	.....	.....

12. (a) Did you have a job arranged before moving? Yes ___ No ___

(b) Did you have a house or other accommodation arranged before moving? Yes ___ No ___

(c) Did you receive any assistance with the moving expenses? Yes ___
No ___

Please complete the table below for each move (check the columns that are applicable)

<u>Yr. of Move</u>	<u>Job Arranged</u>	<u>House or Accomm.</u>	<u>Assistance</u>
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

13. (a) Why did you move to each new location?

13. Please complete the table below. Enter the year of move and check applicable reason.

<u>Reason for move:</u>	19..	19..	19..	19..	19..
As a dependent
For employment reasons
For retirement
For health reasons
To be near relatives or friends
Had just finished training
For land
Other (specify)

14. (a) How did you learn about the conditions at each new location?

Please complete the table below. Enter year of move and check applicable reasons.

<u>Reason</u>	19..	19..	19..	19..	19..
Just heard about the place
Read of area or job oppor- tunities in the newspaper
Manpower or employment office
Relatives told you
Friends told you
Don't know
Other (specify)

When you moved, did you
change your job? Enter yes
or no in column.

Did you change your type of
work? Enter yes or no in
column.

- (b) If a friend or relative told you, had they previously moved to the
area about which they were advising you? Yes ___ No ___

15. (a) Are you self-employed? Yes ___ No ___

- (b) Do you work for someone else (i.e. hired)? Yes ___ No ___

20. (c) If yes, why did you leave the farm?

.....

(d) When did you leave the farm? _____ (year)

21. Are you planning to move again soon? Yes ___ No ___

to where? _____

when? _____

why? _____

NOTE:

When a householder was interviewed personally, any secondary reason for moving was also recorded. For example, some interviewees indicated that the primary reason for moving was to be near relatives with the secondary motive of finding a new job.

APPENDIX II

CHI-SQUARE TEST OF SAMPLE RELIABILITY
(Households and responses by enumeration areas)

NO. HOUSEHOLDS 1966	NO. RESPONSES	E. % HOUSEHOLDS	O. % RESPONSES	O-E	(O-E) ²	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E.}$
70	3	0.56	0.65	0.65	0.423	0.35
42	2	0.72	0.37	.35	.123	.17
56	6	0.97	1.11	.14	.019	.02
77	7	1.33	1.23	.10	.010	.00
57	3	0.98	0.56	.42	.176	.18
93	14	1.58	2.47	.89	.792	.50
67	9	1.16	1.67	.51	.260	.22
59	1	1.02	0.18	.16	.026	.03
61	4	1.05	0.75	.30	.090	.09
59	4	1.02	0.75	.30	.090	.09
85	16	1.47	2.98	1.51	2.28	1.53
37	7	0.64	1.23	0.59	0.35	0.55
55	5	0.95	0.94	.01	.000	.00
80	3	1.38	0.56	.82	.672	.48
46	3	0.79	0.56	.23	.053	.07
54	6	0.93	1.11	.18	.032	.03
97	10	1.65	1.87	.22	.048	.03
63	7	1.09	1.23	.14	.019	.02
41	7	0.71	1.23	.52	.027	.04
61	6	1.05	1.11	.06	.004	.00

CHI-SQUARE Cont'd

NO. HOUSEHOLDS 1966	NO. RESPONSES	E. % HOUSEHOLDS	O. % RESPONSES	O-E	(O-E) ²	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
59	7	1.02	1.23	.21	.044	.04
151	12	2.78	2.23	.55	.303	.11
63	8	1.09	1.49	.40	.160	.15
89	6	1.54	1.11	.43	.185	.12
48	6	0.83	1.11	.28	.078	.09
51	4	0.88	0.75	.13	.017	.02
109	11	1.88	2.05	.17	.029	.02
74	5	1.28	0.94	.34	.116	.09
38	3	0.66	0.56	.10	.010	.02
48	11	1.02	2.05	.09	.008	.00
64	6	1.54	1.11	.43	.185	.12
78	4	1.35	0.75	.60	.360	.26
3003	252	51.81	47.09	4.72	22.28	.43
294	27	5.07	5.04	0.03	0.000	.00
149	27	2.57	5.04	2.47	6.101	2.36
126	22	2.17	4.10	1.93	3.725	1.72
82	10	1.41	1.87	0.46	0.211	0.15
TOTAL 5796	544	100.00	100.00	--	--	10.10

A = 37, i.e. 36 degrees of freedom.

$$\chi^2 = 10.10$$

Thus there is a probability of greater than 99 percent that any difference between the observed and expected frequency of responses occurred merely by chance. That is, the agreement between the observed pattern of responses and the expected pattern of responses is significant above the 99 percent level. (See: Gregory, 1964, p. 155).

APPENDIX III

STEPWISE REGRESSION

Stepwise regression was used in order to determine the proportion of the variation of the dependent variable accounted for by each independent variable, an analytical asset not possible with straight regression.

"The stepwise regression technique is designed to include one independent variable at the time, which means that it also furnishes a number of intermediate regression equations never computed with the traditional regression techniques. In each of those steps, the variable that accounts for most of the "non-explained" variation in Y is entered. This means, of course, that the variable with the highest correlation coefficient with respect to the dependent variable is the first one to be included in the model. The simple regression line depicting the relationships between that variable and the dependent one is then estimated by the ordinary least square technique, and step 1 in the analysis has been completed.

"Step number 2 is initiated by derivation of partial correlation coefficients and their T-values, it is easy to decide which variable accounts for most of the remaining variations in Y. Step 2 is then completed by determining a new regression equation including both that variable and the one from the first step.

"Subsequent steps are taken and new variables added simply by repeating the described procedure. When all specified variables have been included in the model, the cycle terminates automatically." (Olsson, 1965, p. 17)

The stepwise regression programme is identical in function to simple and multiple regression, except that the independent variables are entered into the regression function in stepwise order. The programme requires three sub-programmes: the simple correlation matrix, simple and multiple regression, and the pivoting Gauss-Jordan inverse (Smillie, 1968, pp. 31, 24, 26, 35).

APPENDIX IV

CALCULATION OF NET MIGRATION TO
SUBREGIONS WITHIN THE COUNTY

1. The death rates per 100 population by age groups in the County were calculated from the number of deaths by age groups for Alberta, and then adjusted for the Grande Prairie area according to the ratio of the local crude death rate to the Alberta crude death rate for each of the years 1956, 1961 and 1966 (Alberta, Dept. Health & Vital Stats., 1966, Table 6, p. 49).

DEATH RATE PER 100 POPULATION BY AGE GROUPS
(Grande Prairie Health Unit Area)

AGE GROUP	1966	1961	1956
0 - 4	0.20	0.20	0.20
5 - 9	0.03	0.03	0.03
10 - 14	0.03	0.03	0.03
15 - 19	0.10	0.10	0.10
20 - 24	0.13	0.13	0.13
25 - 34	0.12	0.12	0.12
35 - 44	0.18	0.18	0.18
45 - 54	0.41	0.41	0.41
55 - 64	1.04	1.04	1.12
65 - 69	2.50	2.00	2.10
70 +	6.00	5.90	6.30

2. The birth rates per 100 female population by age groups were calculated for Alberta, and then adjusted for the Grande Prairie area according to the ratio of the local crude birth rate to the Alberta crude birth rate for each of the years 1956, 1961 and 1966 (Alberta, Dept. Health & Vital Stats., 1966, Table 35, pp. 164-165).

BIRTH RATE PER 100 FEMALES BY AGE GROUPS
(Grande Prairie Health Unit Area)

AGE GROUP	1966	1961	1956
15 - 19	6.9	9.1	9.8
20 - 24	21.8	27.4	29.4
25 - 34	14.0	19.0	20.4
35 - 44	4.0	5.5	5.9

3. Population by sex and age groups was obtained by enumeration area (Canada, D.B.S., 1966).
4. The mean population of each subregion, by each age group, for each of the time periods, 1956 - '61 and 1961 - '66, was then applied to the respective mean birth and mean death rates, for each of the time periods, to obtain the natural increase for each study subregion. Equation (1) applied to the population change and natural increase over the period gave the population change due to net-migration. All three figures are shown below.

NET-MIGRATION BY STUDY SUBREGIONS

1956 - '61 and 1961 - '66

SUB- REGION	POPULATION CHANGE		NATURAL INCREASE		POPULATION CHANGE DUE TO NET-MIGRATION	
	1956-'61	1961-'66	1956-'61	1961-'66	1956-'61	1961-'66
1	-179	+ 33	68	55	-247	- 22
2	- 42	- 44	58	48	-100	- 92
3	- 80	- 59	52	45	-132	-104
4	+ 30	- 41	53	48	- 23	- 89
5	- 99	- 27	84	62	-183	- 89
6	+155	- 30	85	73	+ 30	-103
7	-120	- 77	103	70	-223	-147
8	+187	- 5	135	103	+ 52	-108
9	+225	- 12	125	100	+100	-112
10	+ 6	+ 42	43	43	- 37	- 1
H	- 32	- 4	38	28	- 70	- 32
B	+129	+186	102	88	+ 27	+ 98
W	+ 31	- 4	27	25	+ 4	- 29
S	+186	- 40	48	40	+138	- 80
G.P.	+2,050	+3,065	1,321	1,058	+729	+2,007
TOTAL	+2,407	+2,983	2,342	1,886	+ 65	+1,097

APPENDIX V

TABLE A

STEPWISE REGRESSION WITH NUMBER OF IN-MIGRANTS TO A SUBREGION
AS DEPENDENT VARIABLE¹

(Calculated From The Results Of The Field Survey)

VARIABLE (refers to area of destination)	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	T-VALUE	PROPORTION 'EXPLAINED' ²
Education level ³ (1961)	0.0961	1.0100	0.0947	0.9960
Population (1961)	0.6000	0.2450	2.4400	0.0003
% Pop. non-farm (1961)	3.2400	1.5000	2.1500	0.0031
% Pop. change 1956-'61	-1.1900	1.3100	-0.9090	0.0002
No. out-migrants 1961-'66	-0.3180	0.4400	-0.7230	0.0001
Av. income of wage earners (1961)	-0.0301	0.0747	-0.4030	0.0000

¹Migration over the period 1961 - 1966.

²Proportion of variation in the dependent variable 'explained' by variation in the independent variable.

³Number of residents in subregion with over 3 year's high school education.

TABLE B
STEPWISE REGRESSION WITH NUMBER OF NET-MIGRANTS
AS DEPENDENT VARIABLE
(Calculated From D.B.S. Data)

VARIABLE	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	T-VALUE	PROPORTION 'EXPLAINED' ²
Education level ³ (1961)	1.2100	0.8827	1.3710	0.9818
Pop. in 25-64 yr. old group (1961)	0.3087	2.0180	0.1530	0.0033
Av. income of wage earners (1961)	-0.1075	0.0577	-1.8630	0.0027
% Pop. change 1956-'61	-1.7230	1.3210	-1.3050	0.0008
% Pop. non-farm (1961)	1.6510	1.2340	1.3370	0.0020
Population 1961	-0.1280	0.6547	-0.1955	0.0000

¹Migration over the period 1961 - 1966.

²Proportion of variation in the dependent variable 'explained' by variation in the independent variable.

³Number of residents in subregion with over 3 year's high school education.

TABLE C
CROSS CORRELATIONS AMONG MIGRANT CHARACTERISTICS
AND DISTANCE MIGRATED

(1) Migrants Within the County

VARIABLE	VARIABLE (refers to migrants)				
	INCOME	AGE	EDUCATION	FAMILY SIZE	NO. MIGRANTS
Age	-0.016				
Education	** 0.236	** -0.573			
Family Size	** 0.292	-0.143	-0.022		
No. Movers	* 0.190	-0.035	0.098	0.104	
Distance Migrated	0.017	** -0.265	0.118	-0.045	** -0.277

(2) Migrants to the County from Alberta

VARIABLE	VARIABLE (refers to migrants)				
	INCOME	AGE	EDUCATION	FAMILY SIZE	NO. MIGRANTS
Age	0.172				
Education	** 0.271	* -0.186			
Family Size	** 0.346	0.069	-0.172		
No. Movers	** 0.252	-0.077	0.155	0.054	
Distance Migrated	0.139	0.034	0.099	-0.021	0.120

* Significant at 5% level

** Significant at 1% level

TABLE D
SIMPLE REGRESSION OF DISTANCE MIGRATED AGAINST
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MIGRANTS
(Distance Migrated Is The Dependent Variable)

(1) Migrations Within the County

VARIABLE (refers to migrants)	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR OF REGR. COEFF.	COMPUTED T-VALUE
Income	0.0169	0.9450	0.8419	1.1225
Age	-0.2650 ^{**}	-1.2547 ^{**}	0.4330	-2.8977
Education	-0.1180	-0.5073	0.8534	-0.5945
Family Size	-0.0446	-0.5092	0.5170	-0.9849

(2) Migrations to the County from Alberta

VARIABLE (refers to migrants)	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	REGRESSION COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR OF REGR. COEFF.	COMPUTED T-VALUE
Income	0.1395	14.5690	12.0736	1.2067
Age	0.0336	2.7612	7.2231	0.3823
Education	0.0989	5.8410	11.0666	0.5279
Family Size	-0.0207	-5.3300	8.0402	-0.6629

** Significant at 1% level.

APPENDIX VI

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MIGRANTS (RESPONDENTS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE)

TABLE A

MARITAL STATUS AND SEX IF SINGLE

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	MARITAL STATUS			SEX OF SINGLES	
	MARRIED	SINGLE	OTHER	MALE	FEMALE
Within County	91	28	18	18	10
Other Alberta	108	31	12	17	14
Outside Alberta	45	17	4	9	8

TABLE B

AGE OF HEAD OF MIGRANT HOUSEHOLD

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	AGE GROUP (Years)								
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-59	60+
Within County	3	14	8	16	13	14	7	19	43
Other Alberta	4	12	29	31	17	21	14	17	6
Outside Alberta	1	7	8	12	12	11	5	7	5

TABLE C

EDUCATION

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	GRADE COMPLETED						
	0-6	7-9	10 & 11	12	Tech. or Part Univ.	Univ. Gradu- ate	No Response
Within County	24	44	48	6	9	7	0
Other Alberta	1	6	47	39	24	16	1
Outside Alberta	6	20	18	11	10	3	0

TABLE D
INCOME (\$000's)

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT		UNDER 2	2-3.9	4-5.9	6-7.9	8-9.9	OVER 10	NO RESPONSE
Within County	Migrant	3	63	34	17	7	1	12
	Spouse	7	10	4	1	0	0	*
Other Alberta	Migrant	3	20	52	41	14	11	10
	Spouse	6	8	7	1	0	0	*
Outside Alberta	Migrant	1	17	24	15	4	4	1
	Spouse	4	12	3	1	0	0	*

* Not relevant because of large proportion of single migrants.

TABLE E
JOB AND ACCOMMODATION ARRANGED BEFORE MOVING

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	JOB ARRANGED		ACCOMMODATION ARRANGED	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Within County	82	55	105	32
Other Alberta	113	38	87	64
Outside Alberta	41	27	49	19

TABLE F
JOB CHANGE AND WORK CHANGE WITH THE MOVE

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	JOB CHANGE		TYPE OF WORK CHANGE	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Within County	85	52	66	71
Other Alberta	66	85	39	112
Outside Alberta	50	18	32	36

TABLE G
THE REASONS FOR MOVING

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	RELATIVE OR FRIEND	DEPENDENT	EMPLOYMENT	RETIREMENT	HEALTH	TRANSFER	CHANGE FAMILY STATUS	LIKED THE AREA	OTHER	NO RESPONSE
Within County Main Reason	6	4	62	32	3	0	12	9	9	0
Second Reason	16	2	8	8	3	4	1	1	13	86
Other Alberta Main Reason	16	13	108	3	1	2	2	2	4	0
Second Reason	4	0	8	1	0	33	2	3	5	95
Outside Alberta Main Reason	22	1	33	3	2	2	1	1	3	0
Second Reason	2	0	4	1	0	10	1	3	4	42

TABLE H
FRIEND OR RELATIVE PRECEDING MIGRANT

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	YES	NO
Within County	4	133
Other Alberta	29	122
Outside Alberta	26	42

TABLE I
MANNER IN WHICH INFORMATION ABOUT
DESTINATION WAS OBTAINED

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	NEWSPAPER	EMPLOYMENT OFFICE	PRIVATE ARRANGEMENT	RELATIVES	FRIENDS	LIVED NEARBY	TRANSFER	DON'T KNOW	OTHER	NO RESPONSE
Within County	9	2	17	27	19	40	5	3	9	6
Other Alberta	12	3	22	33	18	1	35	2	10	15
Outside Alberta	3	0	2	33	9	0	10	0	6	1

TABLE J
YEAR OF MOVE

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	YEAR										
	1956 -'57	1957 -'58	1958 -'59	1959 -'60	1960 -'61	1961 -'62	1962 -'63	1963 -'64	1964 -'65	1965 -'66	1966 -'67
Within County	6	14	14	11	15	7	12	15	15	11	17
Other Alberta	3	10	8	12	15	15	19	15	14	17	23
Outside Alberta	5	5	1	3	7	6	9	6	6	10	10

TABLE K
JOB TYPE

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	FARMER	OFFICE WORKER	BUSINESSMAN	LABOURER	PROFESSIONAL	RETIRED	SALESMAN OR SERVICEMAN	TRADESMAN	OTHER	NO RESPONSE
Within County	22	7	8	22	8	38	2	12	3	15
Other Alberta	8	21	14	27	20	3	7	28	9	14
Outside Alberta	9	10	13	12	3	2	1	9	5	4

TABLE L
TYPE OF EMPLOYER

ORIGIN OF MIGRANT	SELF-EMPLOYED	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS	MANUFACTURER	SALES AND SERVICE	FOREST PRODUCTS	CONSTRUCTION	GOV'T AND ALLIED	TRANSPORTATION	OTHER	NO RESPONSE
Within County	30	2	1	0	17	3	7	19	1	4	53
Other Alberta	21	4	5	3	28	10	16	38	3	6	17
Outside Alberta	6	1	2	4	18	3	3	12	2	11	6

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